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BIRTHS.

At Canton, on the 27th January, the wife of J. R. GREAVES, of a son.

At 13, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, on the 31st January, 1898, the wife of CHARLES GRANT, of a daughter.

On the 1st February at 11.30 a.m., at 15, Mosque Junction, the wife of Senhor E. F. X. dos SANTOS-REMEDIOS, Naval and Civil Architect and Surveyor, of a daughter.

On the 9th February, at 3, Queen's Gardens, the wife of J. T. LAUTS, of a son.

DEATH.

At the Government Civil Hospital, on Monday, the 7th inst., from compound fracture of the skull, ALBERT GEORGE (aged 7½ years), only son of ALICE and JOHN BARRY, 11a, Praya East, Hongkong.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 6th January arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 5th February (30 days); and the German mail of the 10th January arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Sachsen*, on the 10th February (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Captain Rosendahl, hitherto commander of the German war-vessel *Friedrich Karl*, was appointed commander of the German forces at Kiaochau on 3rd January.

The cruisers *Kasaki* and *Chitose*, which are being built in the United States for the Japanese Government, were launched on the 20th and 22nd January respectively.

A Madrid telegram of the 21st January to the *Manila Comercio* states that all those who were deported in connection with Philippine affairs have been set at liberty.

The *Japan Times* announces the death of Lady Tai Wö Kun, mother of the Korean Emperor, which occurred on the 8th January. Her Royal Highness was in her 81st year.

An electric tramway is about to be laid from the terminus of the Peking line to the city gates, we hear. This will be a great boon to travellers to and from the capital.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

The latest news as to Prince Henry's movements is to the effect that the German cruisers were expected at Colombo on the 6th inst. They would probably leave on the 8th, and may be expected at Singapore about the 14th inst. It was officially announced by the Ceylon Government that Prince Henry of Prussia would land at Colombo merely as Admiral, and not as a Royal Prince.

In an action for libel tried in the British Consular Court at Bangkok in which Dr. Nightingale claimed \$10,000 damages from the *Bangkok Times*, a verdict has been given for the defendant. The action arose out of some remarks made by the newspaper in connection with the cattle trade which the plaintiff considered reflected upon him in his capacity of Medical Officer to the Local Government. The jury were not agreed, but both parties agreed to accept the verdict of the majority.

According to Reuter's telegram, no mention was made of China in the Queen's Speech at the opening of Parliament, but Lord Salisbury in the House of Lords said it was represented that China would be much embarrassed if the Talienwan proposal was maintained; it had therefore been settled to postpone the question of treaty ports until the railway had reached Talienwan. He also said that Russia and Germany had assured Great Britain that any ports they obtained would be made free ports.

The Korean Council of State has passed a resolution, approved by the Emperor, forbidding the grant by the Government of any more concessions to foreigners to build railways or open mines in the Empire. It is a pity to see a country with such possibilities as Korea undoubtedly possesses, and where the people have no apparent dislike to foreigners, falling back into barbarism through the disputes of the Powers that pretend to be anxious to lead her into the light of civilisation.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The Japanese *Official Gazette* announces the establishment of the Office of Generalissimo in the Imperial Palace under the presidency of His Majesty the Emperor. The staff of the Office is to consist of Admirals and Generals to be nominated by His Majesty and a Colonel and a Captain. The office is to be the highest Council on naval and military affairs. It is stated that the H. I. H. Prince General Komatsu, General Yamagata Aritomo, General Oyama Iwao, Admiral Saigo Tsugumichi and Admiral Kabayama Sukenori will be appointed to the Staff of the Office.

Sir Nicholas Hannen was received in audience by H. M. the King of Siam on the 3rd February. A state banquet was given on the following evening at the Palace. The only Europeans present were the four Ministers: Messrs. Barrett, Seldeneck, Inagaki, and Greville, and Mrs. Greville; Sir N. Hannen and Lady Hannen, Miss Hannen, and M. and Mme. Rolin-Jacquemyns.

The Korean correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes under date the 23rd ult. that a British fleet was still at Chemulpo. The Koreans were in a great state of excitement on account of the fleet's remaining there, and spies had been sent to all the treaty ports in Korea to report the movements of foreign men-of-war. The office of the Korean Superintendent of Trade in Chemulpo has been connected by telephone with the Palace at Seoul, so that the King may be kept informed of everything that goes on in the harbour of Chemulpo.

In consequence of the gradual increase of the import of refined sugar into Japan from foreign countries the Japanese merchants interested in the trade have for some time past been endeavouring to prevent its import by starting refineries in Japan, especially since Formosa became a dominion of Japan. For a year or two past the prices of commodities have risen exceedingly, but on the contrary the price of sugar has fallen considerably owing to the keen competition between German and Hongkong sugar. The result was that the companies started for the refining of sugar proved to be a failure and almost all concerns have been dissolved.—*Mainichi*.

A special despatch received from Canton reports that the whole of Northern Kwangtung and Southern Fukien provinces are at present in a state of unrest, and the slightest thing may light the torch of rebellion in that portion of the Chinese Empire. "Already," concludes the despatch, "flags and banners containing mottoes treasonable to the present Manchu dynasty have been hoisted in several villages secure in their fastnesses among the hills, and at the lowest calculation some 40,000 hillmen are ready to rise against the Tartars. Many of the villages have smithies of their own to make muzzle-loading guns and factories to manufacture gunpowder."—*N. C. Daily News*.

In closing a discussion in its correspondence columns on the queue question the *Straits Times* says:—The proposal was that the Straits Chinese should at once cut off their towchangs as a sign that they proposed to initiate great reforms. The idea of great reforms remains; but the proposal to cut the towchangs is, for the present, abandoned. The proposal roused so much opposition that even its warmest supporters admit that, for the present, it is impracticable. "For the present" is sufficient. In the future many changes will come, and, among the results of these, may be a great Chinese nation wearing its hair after the English fashion. There may, indeed, come a day when to the Mongolian Parliament assembled at Peking, Chinese lady M. P.'s will daily make their way mounted on the faithful "bike." But that day is not yet; and sufficient for the day is the evil thereof. For the present the towchang will remain as the distinctive note of the Chinaman—be he the Son of Heaven at Peking, or a subject of the Queen at Singapore.

LORD SALISBURY ON THE PROPOSED OPENING OF TALIENTWAN.

(11th February.)

The assurances given by Lord SALISBURY—as reported briefly through Reuter's agency—are not very inspiring. The abandonment of the demand made for the opening of Talienwan as a Treaty Port is admitted, and the reason given by the Premier is that its maintenance would have seriously embarrassed China. It has therefore been decided to postpone the question of Treaty Ports until the railway has reached Talienwan. This means, of course, that Great Britain has made a demand, backed it up by a little naval flourish, and them incontinently backed down. As we are not sufficiently behind the scenes to judge rightly perhaps as to the wisdom of the backing down process, we refrain from commenting too severely upon this extremely unpleasant and far from dignified movement; but it is permissible to say, in any event, that the British Government should not have been placed in a position to necessitate withdrawal without securing the point contended for. It would have been much better to have acquiesced at first in the action of Russia than to have endeavoured to checkmate her and then either feared to proceed or become convinced of its being a mistake in policy. The reply said to have been given to Sir WALTER RALEIGH by Queen ELIZABETH on one occasion when he wrote on a pane of glass

"Fain would I climb but that I fear to fall."
"If thine heart fail thee why then climb at all,"

might have been addressed to the Marquis of SALISBURY at this juncture. If he were not prepared to carry out a threat, why indulge in it at all? It is surely an error in sound statesmanship to threaten unless you feel in a position to carry out the threat. And the attempt to render the Russian occupation of Port Arthur futile by compelling China to open Talienwan as a Treaty Port was assuredly in the nature of a threat. That some retaliation for Muscovite rudeness in Korea was not only justifiable but necessary may at once be conceded, but the attempt to render the occupation of Port Arthur useless was certainly a wrong move. There were surely other squares on the Celestial chessboard to which Lord SALISBURY might have resorted with equal effect. The occupation of Chinkiang, on the Yangtze, or the re-occupation of the Chusan Islands would have been quite as significant of the intention of Great Britain to protect her interests as a proposal to virtually sit down beside Russia in Manchuria, and far less irritating to that Power. Such a movement would not necessarily imply any intention to endorse a policy of partition; it would merely have been the erection of a new British outpost to protect British commercial interests. During the whole of her relations with China, Great Britain has studiously refrained from any attempt to acquire territory, and only took possession of this barren rock when driven out of Canton by the hostile action of the then Chinese Government. She need not now trouble to seek excuses if she is compelled, by the impotence and imbecility of the mandarins, to demand some other points the future neutrality of which China cannot guarantee, and the possession of which therefore is indispensable to the preservation of the trade which by untiring enterprise, vast outlay, and a fine foresight was built up by Britain in the Far East.

We can understand, in the light of Lord SALISBURY's declaration that the question of

Treaty Ports had been postponed until the railway had reached Talienwan, why the CZAR so piously thanked God that matters had been cleared. His Majesty would seem to have good reason for thankfulness. When the railway is completed his anxieties will be greatly reduced. By that time communication along the Great Trans-Siberian line will be established, and his army corps will have little difficulty in making their way to the dominions of the Son of Heaven. Lord SALISBURY has not been equally demonstrative. He has not thanked the Almighty for any triumph of diplomacy and probably finds little in the situation on which to plume himself. He certainly endeavoured subsequently to comfort the House by informing it that Russia and Germany had assured Great Britain that any ports they obtained would be made free ports. His lordship did not say for how long the assurance was to last; probably for so long as it will suit those nations. Any how the comfort administered is of rather a cold description. No doubt Germany will keep to the compact and will also find it to her advantage to make Kiaochau a free port; but Russia is no great respecter of treaties and has a somewhat iconoclastic method of dealing with them when they become embarrassing or inconvenient. It is within the memory of many of our readers how she tore up the Treaty of Paris when she thought the time was propitious, and there are other incidents in the way of treaty breaking which can be brought up against her. An undertaking was given that Batoum should not be fortified; it is now a military port. Any assurances volunteered by Russia therefore must be taken with a pinch of salt, and until she has established for herself a better reputation for political integrity we think it will always be more satisfactory to secure a material guarantee for the protection of any imperilled interests. The negotiations in regard to the position in the Far East have so far added no lustre to Lord SALISBURY's fame as a statesman.

RUSSIAN POLICY IN THE FAR EAST AND THE DEFENCE OF HONGKONG.

(7th February.)

The situation in China is still far from settled, notwithstanding the fervent satisfaction alleged to have been recently expressed by His Imperial Majesty the CZAR NICHOLAS II. at the clearing of the political horizon. For some reason the Russians are not happy yet, *vide* the report in Reuter's telegram of the 1st inst. that "the Russian Press is 'resuming its attacks upon Great Britain.'" We are of course in the dark as to the real reason for these attacks; probably the Muscovite journalists are of opinion that British diplomacy is being exercised to balk the accomplishment of Russian designs. They may, for aught we know, regard the British Foreign Minister as a dog in the manger, who, not desiring any slice of the Chinese cake for himself, objects to see it carved by others. But if so they quite ignore the fact that if Great Britain desires no territorial acquisitions in North China yet she has a valuable trade with the northern provinces, which she is naturally anxious to retain, and that she as naturally expects to lose that trade if the country is annexed by a Power who has adopted a protectionist tariff. Moreover, if any Power has an object to attain she is more likely to attain it by the use of the *suaviter in modo*, especially when dealing with a highly civilised nation. The methods adopted by the CZAR's representative in Korea were not such as

would commend themselves to any civilised Power. He adopted too much of the tone of the gentlemen of the road in former days, and no self-respecting Power could fail to respond to the rude challenge thus thrown down. The result has been strained relations where nothing but harmony and a thorough and friendly understanding might have prevailed. There is in Great Britain a growing sympathy for Russian aspirations for an open port on the Pacific and there are many advocates of an Anglo-Russian alliance or understanding in Asia. Both Powers are equally interested in preserving the peace of Asia and both have large territories which contain Asiatic populations. Their interests need not clash in any direction, and each might afford valuable support to the other and assist in the development of the great countries over which they rule. We note that Mr. PRITCHARD MORGAN, M. P., speaking at Aberdeen recently, advocated an understanding between Russia and Great Britain, for which he considered public opinion was ripe.

This is undoubtedly the case, but it will not be helped either by the action of the Russian agents in the Far East or the vapourings of the St. Petersburg journals. Had Lord SALISBURY been approached in a courteous manner with a frank statement of the aims and aspirations of Russia in Eastern Asia it is most probable that a *modus vivendi* would have been arranged between the two Powers which would have satisfied both parties. Russia might have given an undertaking to respect British interests and Great Britain would on her part no doubt have been willing to recognise Korea as in the sphere of Russian influence and have given her moral support to Russia there in return for the CZAR's recognition of Great Britain's paramount claim to exercise her influence in the south of China. Now, however, owing to Germany's unexpected action in seizing Kiaochau, Russia's hand has been suddenly forced and she has blundered. In doing so, unfortunately, she has trodden on British corns quite needlessly and is apparently not sufficiently well mannered to apologise. Hence the somewhat critical situation at the present moment, as a result of which all the European Powers seem to be hurrying out battleships to augment their fleets. It is to be hoped that these formidable "messengers of peace" may prove so in reality. Certain it is that weakness on the part of any Power possessing much worth defending is but an invitation to attack, our vaunted civilisation notwithstanding. It is satisfactory, therefore, to know that the British Government are sending out reinforcements to the squadron. Having regard to the magnitude of our trade in the Far East and the large increase in foreign squadrons, our naval strength will have to be permanently augmented. The garrison of this colony must also be greatly increased, and the sooner this fact is recognised at the War Office the better. The fleet must be perfectly free to manœuvre and act as the Admiral thinks best, and this cannot be the case until Hongkong is provided with an effective garrison. The Navy League are doing good work, and we trust they will not flag in their endeavours to render the Navy equal to the demands upon it, alike in ships, guns, and men. To accomplish this alone will be no light task, but it is not hopeless of achievement. At the same time, if not too much taken up in the *personnel* of the Navy, the League might, as cognate to their special subject, take up and express their views on the necessity of rendering the garrison of Hongkong equal to its defence against

outside attack. This question is very much bound up with the Navy, inasmuch as the garrison in this coaling station is a complement to the Naval Force maintained in these waters. It is becoming increasingly evident that if British interests in the Far East are to be maintained intact it can only be by the presence of a really overwhelming armed force.

AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN AND ITS EFFECTS.

The ambition of Japan is not only to be the Britain of the Pacific in an industrial and commercial sense, but also in a political sense to be the predominant Power of Eastern Asia, leading and controlling the races ethnologically allied with her own. The recent turn of events in China therefore brings to Japan a critical point in her history, in reference to which there is a suggestive article in the last number of the *Spectator*. The Marquis Iro, who has recently been reappointed Premier, our contemporary describes as a man who thinks on a large scale, who knows that it is easier to steal an orange than an orange pip, and who sees that with all Europe for an opponent the only prize worth the frightful risk, and the only prize also which might yield sufficient strength to enable him to keep it, is the whole of China. "If he can master the Chinese Empire, either by superseding the Manchoo dynasty, or by assuming for the Japanese Government the permanent position of Mayor of the Palace in Peking, he may make the Yellow Race too powerful for Europe to defeat,—at least in the present condition of its scientific appliances. To secure for ever the control of the resources, the trade, and the soldiers of China would indeed be a service to his country worth performing, and it is this, we are almost convinced, which the Japanese Premier thinks within the limits of his power. He has, therefore, offered the Mandarins to suspend all demands for the rest of the indemnity if they will allow Japanese Generals and officers to organise a Chinese Army, and will maintain a strict alliance with Japan."

This alleged offer by Japan is one of the numerous rumours that have been placed in circulation in connection with the Chinese question and must not too readily be accepted as fact. The national finances of Japan are not in a condition to warrant the ready sacrifice of the indemnity, and if the sacrifice were made it would mean difficulty in the carrying out of the scheme of naval and military expansion, which is already pressing so heavily on the country as to cause the taxpayers to feel the burden unpleasantly heavy. China might, however, without such an inducement as the wiping off of the indemnity, consent to allow Japan to organise her military resources for her. If the offer is accepted, says the *Spectator*, "Europe is beaten," that is, beaten so far as any attempt to divide China between the Powers is concerned. But on that point Europe is already beaten, by reason of its own rivalries and divided interests. Great Britain has pronounced against the partitioning of China, and Great Britain holds the key of the situation. And even if Great Britain's influence were in itself insufficient to ensure the continued integrity of China, the rivalries of the other Powers, even though for a time sunk in a common alliance, would come into play when a division of the spoils was in contemplation. The partitioning of China, which a short time ago seemed im-

minent, may now be regarded, temporarily at all events, as out of court. The danger to the Empire lies in the corruption and other defects of her own Government, rather than in the ambitions of other Powers.

The point of the *Spectator's* article, however, is the resistance that might be offered to a European coalition by an alliance between China and Japan. "If," says our contemporary, "the Chinese and the Japanese, coerced by the common danger, can agree to any effective union of their forces, Continental Europe has not the power at present to make the effort necessary to conquer the united yellow peoples. She has not the unity, she has not the transport, and she has not the men. No Government except that of Russia would venture to risk its conscripts and its Treasury in such an undertaking, and the Russian Government must first complete its railways, and then learn how to avoid that frightful waste of its trained men which always accompanies its wars. Whether China and Japan can agree or not is beyond our knowledge; but that Japan desires this, and that Chinese reluctance is yielding under the weight of the avalanche of hostile circumstances which now press upon Peking we can feel no doubt whatever." In the above extract it will be observed that the term "Continental Europe" is used, whereas elsewhere in the article the term "Europe" without qualification is employed. As Great Britain, however, has declared against the partitioning of China, Continental Europe, if it entered upon such a scheme, would have to count not only upon the opposition of China and Japan, but also upon that of Great Britain; and possibly that of the United States. As to the ability of Japan to transform the army of China into an efficient fighting body, the *Spectator* seems to underrate the difficulties of the task and to overrate the competency of Japan. The success of the latter in Formosa has not been so great as to encourage hopes of her achieving marked success in China, even if installed as Mayor of the Palace at Peking, to use the *Spectator's* phrase. Chinamen may perhaps be capable of being developed by careful training into good soldiers, but the population would prove restive under Japanese domination, and, moreover, the first essential to the establishment of any degree of military power, namely, honesty in the administration of the national finances, is lacking in China.

AMERICAN OPINION ON THE CHINESE QUESTION.

The interview with LI HUNG-CHANG regarding Germany's action in China, which we reproduced recently from the *New York Herald*, is stated to have aroused the deepest interest in official circles at Washington, and Li's appeal for international justice, it is further stated, meets with the heartiest sympathy from American statesmen. China's case, in our view, is not one that should command sympathy; her difficulties have been brought upon her by her own wrong-doing, and her Government remains corrupt and possesses none of the qualities that command respect. Sentimental considerations are therefore out of place in the discussion, and the practical question for consideration is the course of action to be adopted for the protection of foreign interests and the promotion of foreign trade and commerce. Great Britain has pronounced against a policy of dismemberment, and, that being so, it is satisfactory to find that the policy receives the support of the United States, that is to say, the moral

support. If it came to a question of fighting about the matter the probability is that the States would stand out of the quarrel, but while the question remains in the region of diplomacy American opinion must be accorded its due weight. The *New York Herald* observes:—"Americans know well where American interests lie. If Germany, Russia, and France take possession of any Chinese port or territory, each of these Powers will set up a monopoly for its own benefit. England, on the other hand, will set up free trade, and American products will be admitted as freely as English." The *New York Times* also, after the statement had been made that England would refuse to recognise special concessions by China and would claim for herself under the favoured nation clause the privileges granted to others, in an article discussing the declaration says:—"In the position now taken up Great Britain is not the champion of British interests alone. She is the champion of civilization and humanity, and deserves the support of all mankind, especially of the United States. Our interests in the East are the same as hers." It urges the Administration to assure England that she has the entire and hearty approval of the United States. All this is extremely gratifying and we trust it reflects the views of American statesmen, as would seem to be the case, judging from various interviews that have been published.

THE KOWLOON FRONTIER QUESTION.

The insistence with which Her Majesty's Government declares that Great Britain does not desire territorial acquisitions in China is calculated to cause some misgivings as to the carrying out of the scheme for the rectification of the Kowloon frontier. We hope that the misgivings may be falsified in the result, but in the meantime the prospect is not so clear as we would like to see it. It will be remembered that a short time ago the Central News published a statement representing that negotiations on the subject had been in progress and had resulted in a satisfactory agreement which was shortly to be formally concluded. The whole statement was categorically denied by Reuter, but a few days later a paragraph appeared in the *Times* which would seem to indicate that the project was at least receiving favourable consideration. After a brief statement of the case for extension as it presents itself in Hongkong the *Times* says:—"An impression of the cost of fortification, and a feeling of assurance that we should be able to forestall the action of any other Power in case of need have indisposed our authorities to admit an urgency to which Hongkong is more sensitive. But the issue seems inevitable, and events are combining to bring it nearer." The last sentence is significant, for the *Times* is on friendly terms with the Foreign Office and its statements on questions of foreign policy may usually be regarded as possessing some weight. We take it therefore that at that time—the date of the paper in which the statement appeared is 23rd December—the Foreign Office was favourably disposed to the project, whether actual negotiations had been entered upon or not. But since then the statement has been made and repeated with emphasis that Great Britain does not desire territorial acquisitions in China. The question is whether that statement is intended to be interpreted literally or to be taken in a relative sense. The desired rectification of the

Kowloon frontier necessarily involves a territorial acquisition, and if the term is to be interpreted literally the project for extension must be looked upon as definitely discarded. But when one speaks of territorial acquisitions in a general sense it is usually whole provinces or large sections of them that are in the mind of the speaker, not small readjustments of the boundaries of territory already in actual occupation or the acquisition of the small slices of territory that may be necessary for the establishment of trading stations. We trust it is only in the larger and more general sense that the term has been used by Her Majesty's Ministers. It would be inexpedient in the last degree for Great Britain to bind herself never under any circumstances to acquire so much territory in China as may be necessary for the development and safety of Hongkong or for the rectification of the Burmah frontier should experience show such rectification to be desirable. But if Great Britain reserves to herself the right to make such small acquisitions of territory as may become necessary for the protection and furtherance of her trade and the convenience of her fleet she must be prepared to allow the same liberty to other Powers, always provided that it is not used for the purpose of excluding British trade. The establishment by Germany of another Hongkong at Kiaochau will prove an excellent thing, not only for German trade, but for trade in general and for the enlargement and improvement of foreign intercourse with China. The more of such stations that are established along the coast the better, provided they are always maintained as free ports. The case is perhaps somewhat different where the intention in the acquisition of a port is to establish an arsenal, and not a trading station, but here again, so long as our trade interests are not threatened, it would be better policy for Great Britain to allow other Powers to take such measures as they may deem necessary for the protection of their interests than to tie her own hands while trying to prevent them. If Russia, for instance, desires Port Arthur, although we might not look upon the acquisition with favour, it would be better to let her have it than in trying to prevent her to bind ourselves never to acquire Miao Bay, which is absolutely essential for the safety and development of Hongkong. Her Majesty's Government has definitely pronounced against the partitioning of China, but we trust that the policy so decided upon will not be carried out in such a hard and fast manner as to preclude the establishment of new trading stations or the reasonable readjustment of existing frontiers.

GERMAN AND ENGLISH COMMERCIAL METHODS.

In his report on the trade of Japan Mr. BRENNAN again refers to the superiority of our rivals in what is called pushing business. Seeing that during the past seven years the imports from Great Britain and British possessions into Japan have increased by 50,500,000 yen, while all other countries put together have improved their position by 29,500,000 yen only, we have perhaps no real reason for national self reproach. Still it is to be regretted that in any department of trade we should have to confess that others are more successful than ourselves; but this is what Mr. BRENNAN says:—"In what is called 'pushing business, I do not think we are so advantageously situated as some of our neighbours. Our mercantile houses, 'as a rule, have a well-established business,

"and are not anxious to venture into new fields, and, moreover, English mercantile men come of a class with a different training from their German confrères. I am aware that here I tread on delicate ground, but when it comes to taking trouble and putting up with disagreeable experiences, the young German does so with more readiness than the Englishman. We have not the class of men who are willing to play the rôle of salesman." Perhaps the reader may be inclined to ask what makes Mr. BRENNAN refer to this matter as delicate ground. Possibly it is social considerations that he has in his mind, and if so he might have done some good by elaborating the point a little more. It seems absurd that social prejudice should be allowed to interfere with business, and it may be doubted whether it does so to any great extent, but the fact remains that amongst Englishmen in the Far East the social taboo is applied to certain descriptions of trade that amongst our Continental friends are not considered at all derogatory.

In illustration of his meaning Mr. BRENNAN relates what occurred to him at a small port in the East, where there may have been a dozen European residents in all. Wishing to obtain an English-made article for his own use, he inquired of an English merchant whether there was a native shop or store where European articles were sold. The merchant replied that, with such a small European community, there was not sufficient support for a "foreign store," and that the Europeans obtained all their supplies from the neighbouring large port. This Englishman had lived several years in the place, and Mr. BRENNAN accepted his answer without demur. In walking through the streets next day he came across a very well supplied "foreign store," kept by a native. The store was stocked with almost all that a housekeeper could require, a veritable "Army and Navy Stores" in miniature, and the storekeeper obtained his supplies through a German merchant in the port. "It is very probable," says Mr. BRENNAN, "that the English merchant would not have cared for the business; he would have said, truly enough, that it was not in his line; but somehow there always seems to be a German in whose line it is. Far be it from me to criticise our merchants who are now in China or Japan; they are excellent judges of what pays them and what does not. It is upon those who might profitably be there, and yet are not, that I venture to make any reflection." But why are the latter not there? May it be in part because they know that their existence would be rendered unpleasant by the social prejudices of their fellow countrymen, whereas a German may engage in any honest trade, even retail, and yet be freely admitted to the society of his fellow residents provided his education and training fit him for it. We are not sure that this is Mr. BRENNAN's meaning when he alludes to "delicate ground," but the point is one which has no doubt occurred to many observers.

At Shanghai, at about ten minutes past nine on Saturday evening, 29th January, a fire was discovered to have broken out in a native house, No. 35, Yunnan Road. The Fire Brigade was called out and lost no time in getting to work, but it was not until eleven houses had been destroyed and eight others more or less seriously damaged by fire and water that the flames were extinguished. The property was owned by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. and was insured in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. There was no insurance on the contents.

COMPETITIVE DESIGNS FOR THE NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.

Whatever differences of opinion may be entertained as to the best site for the new Post Office, the public will, we think, agree with the Hon. C. P. CHATER that the plans both for that building and the other Public Offices should be prepared by local architects. "I wish to record my opinion," writes Mr. CHATER in his recently published memorandum, "that the plans for the new Public Offices should be made by local architects of standing, who, I think, by their experience of local requirements and construction, are far more likely to produce a satisfactory and economical building than any firm of architects in England. The work already executed in this city seems to me quite proof enough of the ability of the local architects to undertake the proposed buildings, which, I may mention, are not so large as the blocks now being built on the 'Reclamation.' The plans sent home, and which have been condemned by Messrs. WEBB and BELL, the Colonial Office Consulting Architects, are those for which Mr. COOPER, the late Director of Public Works, was responsible. As they had already been condemned by the Committee appointed to consider the matter, it seems a little unfortunate that they should not have been at once discarded and competitive designs invited, for their submission to Messrs. WEBB and BELL has only resulted in delay and needless expense. What the Consulting Architects say is practically identical with what we believe was said by the Committee.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY in his recently published report recommends that plot No. 2 on the new Praya should be devoted to the new Courts and their accessories and that Messrs. WEBB and BELL should be called upon to prepare "a suitable design, worthy of the colony and of this prominent site." The Post Office and Treasury Mr. ORMSBY recommends should be placed on the site now occupied by the courts and Post Office, but the design, he considers, could be made locally. "From its position," Mr. ORMSBY says, "no striking architectural effects would be necessary or desirable. The elevation should follow that of the new buildings in Queen's Road, such as the Chartered Bank, and the internal arrangement of public rooms and offices could probably be better decided on the spot." It will be seen that Mr. ORMSBY does the local architects the compliment of suggesting that buildings erected from their designs should be taken as the model for the new Post Office. He does not say, however, whether he would have competitive designs invited or would have the work done departmentally. The former course would be the better calculated to secure a handsome building conveniently arranged.

We must demur to Mr. ORMSBY's opinion that no striking architectural effects are necessary or desirable in the new Post Office. If the clock tower were removed, as has been suggested, the site of the present Post Office would become a prominent one and should be occupied by a building worthy of it. The Chartered Bank is certainly a handsome building, but a slavish imitation of it for the new Post Office is to be deprecated. The standard of architecture in the colony has for years been steadily rising, almost every new building of any importance showing some advance, and the erection of a new Post Office should be availed

of as an opportunity for still further raising the standard. We would therefore suggest that competitive designs should be invited, in order that the colony might obtain the best building possible. But as Mr. ORMSBY suggests that the plans for the new Post Office should be prepared locally, why should he think it necessary to go to England for the plans of the new Courts? It is as true in relation to the Courts as to the Post Office that "the internal arrangement of public rooms and offices could probably be better decided on the spot," and as to "striking architectural effects," we think local architects might be relied upon to produce "a design worthy of the colony and of this prominent site."

THE WATER-CARRIAGE VERSUS THE HAND-CARRIAGE SYSTEM.

At the last meeting of the Sanitary Board the question of the respective merits of the water carriage system and the hand carriage system for the disposal of nightsoil was again raised. The subject is one upon the abstract merits of which experts are divided in opinion, but so far as Hongkong is concerned, the general adoption of the water carriage system, even if it were held to be desirable on other grounds, has been practically impossible owing to the scarcity of the water supply. The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, Director of Public Works, is of opinion that with the recent additions to the storage capacity and those in progress the difficulty has been overcome and that Hongkong will never again experience a water famine. We hope it may be so, but the figures Mr. ORMSBY gives are not convincing upon the point. Calculations in such matters must be based, not on the average, but on the minimum rainfall. The growth of the population and the consequently increased demands upon the water supply must also be taken into consideration, and under existing conditions it would be unwise to add to those demands by the general adoption of the water closet system. The difficulty might, of course, be got over by using sea waters but that would involve the expense of laying special mains, building reservoirs, and setting up pumping machinery. Unless and until the colony is prepared to enter upon a scheme of that kind the adoption of the water carriage system must be considered in reference to the existing water supply, and must be declared inexpedient on account of the possibility of its aggravating a water famine and also on account of the direct danger to health that would be created in the event of there not being sufficient water available for flushing purposes.

If the water difficulty could be overcome we would be disposed to favour the adoption of the water carriage system for European houses and, as suggested by Mr. CHADWICK in his report on the drainage of Hongkong, not to discourage any tendency that might be evinced by the Chinese to adopt it. It is contended that such diseases as enteric fever and diphtheria can be and are contracted from the foul emanations from drains and sewers, especially when they contain human excreta, and this contention is supported by clinical experience, many cases of these two diseases having been traced to foul emanations from sewers and drains. This direct evidence must be held to outweigh that supplied by experiments proving that sewer air is purer bacteriologically than atmospheric air. But where the drainage system is good foul emanations ought not to exist, and even if

an occasional case of illness may be traced to such a source, on the other hand the offensive smells attendant upon the hand carriage system must also be prejudicial to health. Certain it is that some of the healthiest cities in Great Britain employ the water carriage system; and if it be correct, as has been stated, that Victoria may now be regarded as one of the best drained cities east of Suez, the drains ought to be capable of meeting the demand that the adoption of that system here would make upon them. Mr. EDE favours the hand carriage system because with it the sewage is carried right away from the colony; but with an efficient water carriage system the removal is effected not only as completely, but also more promptly. However, in the absence of an adequate water supply it is useless discussing the merits of the water carriage system. The practical point to which attention should be directed is the improvement of the present hand carriage system. The Sanitary Board made recommendations to the Government on this subject six months ago, but nothing has yet been done.

THE GAOL REPORT.

The Hon. F. H. MAY's report on Victoria Gaol for 1897 records a notable improvement in the discipline and a corresponding decrease in the number of prison offences. In 1894 the daily average number of prisoners was 455 and the number of prison offences 2,896, giving an average of 6.3 offences per prisoner; in 1895 the daily average number of prisoners was 472 and the number of prison offences 3,654, giving an average of 7.7 per man; in 1896 the figures were, daily average number of prisoners 514, number of prison offences 2,592, average per prisoner 5; while in 1897 the daily average number of prisoners was 462, the number of offences 1,903, average per man 4.1. Mr. MAY ascribes the improvement to greater efficiency of supervision on the part of the gaol staff and to "a better appreciation of prison discipline on the part of the prisoners." The latter cause is presumably dependent upon the former, for as the prisoners are a fluctuating body drawn from the same class one year after another it is not to be supposed that there can have been any appreciable all round improvement in their character. With regard to the gaol staff, Mr. MAY reports that their conduct has been on the whole very good, and this no doubt is the important factor in bringing about the diminution in the number of prison offences. In his report for 1895 Mr. A. M. THOMSON, who was then Acting-Superintendent of the Gaol, stated that the staff had been reorganised during that year, chiefly by the engagement of a number of Indian turnkeys and a corresponding reduction in the European staff; Mr. CRAIG joined as Warder in February and a few other officers had since come out from England. In the 1896 report, written by Mr. H. B. LETHBRIDGE, the bald statement was made that the conduct of the staff generally had been good. Mr. MAY in his report for 1897 enters a little more into detail, gives credit to the Chief Warder and Principal Warders, and mentions that during the year eleven European warders had been engaged locally, who were drawn from the naval and military forces and had given satisfaction. Whether these engagements were due to an increase in the staff or were simply to fill vacancies caused by resignation is not stated; but the sensible diminution

in the number of prison offences caused by greater efficiency on the part of the gaol staff is a strong argument in favour of making the conditions of service such that good men may be induced to remain, for with constant changes on account of dissatisfaction efficiency cannot reach its highest point. There has within the last year or two been some improvement in the conditions, with the result that changes are, we believe, less frequent than they used to be, but they seem still to be more frequent than is desirable.

DEPARTURE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

On 1st Feb. the community of Hongkong knew Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., as Governor of their colony for the last time. He departed from our shores by the German mail steamer *Preussen*. How highly popular he was in social circles was fully shown during the busy two hours preceding his departure, for the people who had known him and had cause to respect him during his long period of office assembled in large numbers to bid him farewell and to wish him long life and prosperity. Before embarking His Excellency was the recipient of three addresses, which were presented to him at the City Hall. One was from the community as a whole, the second was from the Chinese, and the third was from the Parsees. The presentations were made in the St. George's Hall, which was crowded with people, including many ladies. According to what has been his invariable custom, His Excellency was punctual in arriving, and he was received in front of the City Hall by a guard of honour consisting of men of the Hongkong Regiment. At the door Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) and several leading members of the community welcomed His Excellency and conducted him to the hall. There was no delay in commencing the proceedings.

THE ADDRESS FROM THE COMMUNITY.

Sir JOHN CARRINGTON, in presenting the address on behalf of the community, said—Your Excellency, it is my privilege to ask you to receive a farewell address from the inhabitants of this colony. The address itself will be illuminated and will be forwarded to Your Excellency when you arrive home, together with an album of views of the colony, which we beg you to accept with the address. I will now, Sir, with your leave read the address:—

Hongkong, January, 1898.

To His Excellency Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

Sir,—Before you finally sever your official connection with Hongkong and leave the place with which you have been so closely associated for upwards of the last six years, its residents would ask you to accept this brief tribute of their regard for the cordial sentiments which you have ever entertained towards them, and the kindly thoughts which you have always expressed for the prosperity of the colony.

In the Autumn of 1891, Hongkong welcomed you as its new Governor, and from that time down to the present hour you have shaped the destinies of the Island, and watched over its interests, its liberties, and its rights. In the administration of its affairs you have invariably acted under a sense of impartial justice, and if sometimes doubts and difficulties have intervened and differences have arisen, you have ever readily listened to and weighed the views and suggestions of others, even though, in the exercise of your duty, you have felt compelled to negative and reject them.

The stages through which your past has led you have endowed you, in many parts of Her Majesty's dominions, with varied experiences of human life. In 1854 you joined the Colonial Service, and gradually rose, step by step, to the position which you now hold. Private Secretary at various intervals to such statesmen as Mr.

Herman Merivale, Lord Blachford, and Lord Cardwell; in 1869 Representative of the Colonial Office on the East African Slave Trade Commission; in 1873 Superintendent of the Colonial Court at the Vienna Universal Exhibition; in 1875 Governor of the Bahamas; in 1881 of the Windwards Islands; in 1885 of Trinidad, and in 1891 of this colony; recipient of the Board of Trade's thanks on one occasion, and of those of the Imperial Government on another, you have passed from grade to grade with energy and credit, and Hongkong might well feel confidence when its government was entrusted to your keeping. The result has justified those who were responsible for your appointment, and this community tenders you its sincere congratulations on a career which has recently been worthily honoured by the bestowal upon you by the Queen of the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

During your Governorship—a record Governorship we believe in point of length of residence in the colony—you have again and again shown by your outspoken sympathy the interest which you feel in the cause of education, a cause the beneficent aims and principles of which are the common welfare of humanity.

Nor, whilst living amongst us, have you forgotten the rights of hospitality. These you have exercised in a generous and courteous way, and your British partiality for sports of all kinds has been fully attested by the encouragement and assistance which you have given to the pastimes of the colony.

Regretfully we have now to realise that the time has come to bid you farewell, and in doing so we beg to assure you of our heartfelt wishes for your well-being, and our earnest hope that, wherever your future path may lie, prosperity and happiness may always be yours. —We are, sir, your obedient servants,

(Here follow signatures)

Sir JOHN CARRINGTON continued—Your Excellency, I will take leave to add but a few words to the sentiments contained in the address. In the first place, I would venture to say that this address accurately expresses the feelings of the inhabitants of this colony on your Excellency's laying down the reins of office and departing from its shores. (Applause.) Sir, I had the privilege of knowing you a good many years ago in the West Indies. You were then the Governor of some of those fair but now unfortunate isles, and I recollect that you were esteemed amongst the most able, enlightened, and progressive Governors whom those islands had ever known. (Applause.) I remember, Sir, that you said to me on more than one occasion that you had been a long time in the West and that you would like to try your hand in the East. Your wish was gratified. You have now for more than six years lived and ruled amongst us, and now you are laying down the cares of office and leaving the East. I think, Sir, you may be gratified by finding that we believe your success has been the same in the East as it was in the West, and that you leave behind you a record of honourable and successful administration of the affairs of the colony. (Applause.) There is one characteristic of your administration with regard to which I should like to say a few words. Both in the West and also here in the East you have had to rule over colonies in which there was great diversity of race and great diversity of creed. I cannot recollect during all my long acquaintance with you, Sir, that anyone ever charged you with doing otherwise than holding the balance fairly and evenly between those diverse races and creeds. (Applause.) You have, I think, never sought to advance the interests of one race or creed or class at the expense of those of another. But, Sir, we do not come here to-day to speak of those things; we are not thinking of the Governor who is leaving us, but we are thinking of the man who is leaving us, and we feel that while we are losing an able and successful Governor we are doing more than that: we are losing a kind friend. (Applause.) Sir, you will in the next few minutes leave the shores of Hongkong. It may be that you will return to them no more; it may be that few of us gathered here in this hall to-day will ever see your face again. I beg to assure you that you take with you the good will and kind feelings of the people of this colony, that they will always bear you in long and kindly remembrance, and they trust that

they may also have a place in your good feelings. I will now conclude, Sir, by expressing orally what the address has already said, that we wish wherever you may go you may continue that long and honorable career of usefulness to your fellow men which has distinguished you heretofore, that you may have many blessings showered upon you, and that Heaven may send happiness to yourself and happiness to those around you. (Applause.) I now, Sir, on behalf of those who are present in this hall and also on behalf of those who are not here, bid you in the truest sense of the word farewell. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY, who was received with loud cheering said—Sir John Carrington, ladies and gentlemen, it is quite beyond my power, on this somewhat trying occasion, to find words in which I can adequately express to you my heartfelt thanks for the address and beautiful album which you have just presented to me. I shall place them amongst my most valued records. You have referred, Sir, to my past career. Let me assure you that during the whole of that time I have had no other ambition than to serve my Queen and the colonies over which I have presided. (Applause.) The only reward a Governor can look for is the approbation of his Sovereign; the confidence of the colonists, and the success of those measures which he has put forward in the belief that they will be beneficial to the welfare and stability of the colony in which his lot has been cast. (Applause.) I have received Her Majesty's approbation; I believe the legislation which I have had a hand in here has been and will be of advantage to Hongkong, and apparently I have won your confidence. (Applause.) That, gentlemen, affords me the highest satisfaction; for in this community is to be found that intelligence, that sense of right, and that appreciation of duty, which is duty's best reward. (Applause.) Ladies and gentlemen, I cordially and fully reciprocate your good wishes, and wherever my future path may lie, I shall never forget Hongkong, and its energetic and generous community. (Applause.) I cannot attempt to thank Sir John Carrington for the kind speech he has delivered, in addition to this address. I can only say I heartily thank you for your extreme kindness to me, and I am extremely sorry to leave the colony. (Applause.)

THE CHINESE ADDRESS.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI said—Your Excellency, on behalf of the Chinese community of Hongkong I have the honour to present to you for your kind acceptance an address written in Chinese and embroidered on silk. While joining most heartily in the presentation of the general address from the whole community to Your Excellency, and endorsing fully the sentiments expressed therein, my fellow Chinese citizens have felt it to be their pleasant duty to present you with a special address expressing to you, Sir, their feeling of deep regret at your departure from this colony, and assuring you of their profound admiration and esteem for you as a Governor and friend. At the very commencement of your term of office you promised the Chinese that they would find in you not only a Governor but also a friend, and no one knows better than the Chinese themselves that this promise has been more than fulfilled. (Applause.) For, without your strong and favourable representation to the Secretary of State, their immense interests would not be so well represented and looked after in the Legislative Council as they are now; without your ready sympathy and kindly consideration, they would still be under the irksome regulations requiring every one of them when out at night to carry a pass and light; without your staunch support and generous assistance the new house of the Po Leong Kuk would not have been built and the work of that charitable society would not have been so effective and useful; and lastly, without your friendly advice and personal influence many improvements in some of the native institutions would not have been made with the least possible amount of friction. In short, Sir, under your six years' term of office, the condition of the Chinese in this colony has greatly been improved, their interest has been fully protected, their liberty extended, their welfare promoted, and their representations respected. For all these the Chinese are truly grateful to Your Excellency, and in presenting this address, they wish in a measure to show their grateful feel-

ings. Their only regret is that the Colonial regulations prevent them from presenting to you a more valuable gift, one more worthy of your acceptance. Notwithstanding this, however, they venture to hope that Your Excellency will kindly accept this address, which may serve at some future time to remind you that in this far eastern colony of the British Empire you have many admiring and grateful native friends. I will now proceed to read a free English version of the address:—

The Respectful Address of the Chinese Community of Hongkong to H.E. SIR WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G., Governor.

In the year 1891, Your Excellency was appointed by the Queen to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the colony of Hongkong, since which time you have most successfully governed as the representative of the liberal policy of Her Majesty, to the great joy and satisfaction of all classes of this community.

The time has now arrived for Your Excellency to leave office, and we much regret that our earnest desire to delay your departure cannot be gratified.

We beg to assure Your Excellency, however, that our admiration and esteem for you can never be effaced from our hearts, and to give expression to our lasting sentiments, we now beg to present you with this Address, of which the following is a free translation:—

Representative of a noble race, born to be a ruler of men, you are possessed of incomparable understanding and wisdom.

Firm as the gnarled pine, and straight as an arrow, your unsullied reputation is like a gem without flaw and clear as ice.

Endowed with a noble mind and a brave heart, you are fitted to be a leader of men in peace or war.

From the time of your assumption of the Government of this colony, you have spared neither time nor pains in the discharge of your many duties.

The result is that the people under you now live in safety and comfort, ruled by just laws which are administered by competent officials.

With a nature as refined as pure gold, and character as untarnished as a perfect gem, you have abolished all bad and oppressive laws and have maintained good order and government amongst us.

These and the other improvements effected by you, while continuing undiminished in splendour the glorious prestige of the past, are a source of boundless benefit to us. May Heaven bestow upon Your Excellency countless blessings and grant you long life, health, and happiness.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI then handed the address to his Excellency and said—The original has been sent on board, being of a very bulky nature. This is the bill of lading and the key of the box and photograph of the address. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Dr. Ho Kai, ladies and gentlemen, I did not know that this address was going to be presented to me, and I was thoroughly unacquainted with its contents until it was translated by Dr. Ho Kai. I receive it with a great deal of pleasure. It is extremely gratifying to me to know, as Sir John Carrington said just now, that I have governed this place without fear, favour, or illwill, or without regard to class, colour, or creed. (Applause.) As you said, I promised in my first address I made in this colony that the Chinese people—who are a very important section of the community—would find in me a Governor and a friend, and that I would assist them in all their reasonable aspirations. This, I believe, I have done, and I shall cherish this as a most interesting record, a most interesting gift, all my days. On the eve of my departure, I beg you will express to the Chinese community, Dr. Ho Kai, my gratitude for their kindness to me. (Applause.)

THE PARSEE PRAYER.

Mr. H. N. MODY, in presenting His Excellency with a duplicate of the Jubilee prayer of the Parsee Community to Her Majesty the Queen, and placing the casket with the prayer in his care for conveyance home, said—Sir, on behalf of the Parsee community of Hongkong, I, its President, have the honour to ask Your Excellency to forward to Her Majesty this silver casket containing on a silken scroll the prayer and

thanksgiving tendered by the community on the auspicious occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen. The community is deeply imbued with loyalty to Her Majesty and the British Government, and in whatever part of Her Majesty's vast dominions our lot is cast, it is our privilege to show that loyalty. As a memento of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's glorious reign, we now offer a humble tribute in the shape of our prayer for the welfare of our august Sovereign, her family, and her Empire. (Applause.) The delay in forwarding the prayer has arisen through the length of time consumed in the design and manufacture of the casket. As a small souvenir of the occasion I would further request the favour of the acceptance by Your Excellency of this plush mounted case containing a copy of the scroll of the prayer and thanksgiving. With it we wish Your Excellency all happiness and prosperity in the future and a pleasant voyage home. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY—Mr. Mody, ladies and gentlemen, a second surprise has fallen upon me. I shall have a great deal of pleasure directly I get home, Mr. Mody, of communicating with Her Majesty's Private Secretary, and telling him that I have in my keeping this magnificent casket, containing this most beautiful prayer which you ask me to hand to Her Majesty in record of Her Diamond Jubilee. It has given me the greatest possible pleasure to accept this. I only hope that Her Majesty will direct me to deliver it in person, and then I shall be able to tell her of the loyal though small community of Parsees we have in this colony of Hongkong. I have a great deal of pleasure in accepting this. I do not know whether it comes under the regulations at all, (laughter)—but I shall have great pleasure in placing it in my drawing room when I get home. I shall never forget the kindness of Mr. Mody himself and the courtesy and respect which the Parsee community has always shown to me. (Applause.)

CHEERS FOR HIS EXCELLENCY.

SIR JOHN CARRINGTON—I suppose a ceremony like this would not be complete without giving three British cheers for His Excellency. The cheers were most enthusiastically given.

ON BOARD THE "PREUSSEN."

On leaving the City Hall His Excellency at once proceeded to Bank wharf, where a guard of honour composed of men of the King's Own Lancaster Regiment was drawn up. They presented arms on the arrival of the Governor, who then went on board his launch *Victoria*, which conveyed him to Kowloon. The steamer was crowded with people and as the Governor stepped on board the *Preussen* band played "God Save the Queen," all of the officers standing to attention while. Several residents trusted to the *Fame* to take them off to the *Preussen* in good time, but owing to faulty arrangements there was considerable delay and the passengers arrived on board only just in time to wish Sir William goodbye. As the steamer, which was flying the Union Jack, left the wharf there was much cheering and waving of handkerchiefs from numerous launches and each vessel that was passed dipped its flag. Another salute was fired as the *Preussen* neared the man-of-war anchorage. She made two attempts to turn round in order to go out by Sulphur Channel, but owing to the strong tide she had to leave by way of Lyemsoon Pass.

THE CHINESE ADDRESS.

The album containing the Chinese address is of green plush silver-mounted covers, four of the corners being of dragon design and the other four of bamboo design. The following inscription is engraved on a silver plate:—"Presented to H. E. Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., from the Chinese Community of Hongkong, January, 1898." The address is printed in three colours—chocolate, green, and gold.

THE PARSEE PRESENTATIONS.

The prayer which the Parsee community have sent to her Majesty the Queen, and a copy of which they yesterday presented to His Excellency the Governor, was offered up on the occasion of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee and published at the time. It was printed on satin in chocolate, green, and gold, with the rising sun at the head,

and mounted on beautifully carved ivory rollers and suspended by silken cords with golden tassels. The silver casket to be presented to the Queen in a magnificent sample of Chinese workmanship, and consists solely of the dragon design. The work is open and splendidly executed, and the exceptionally fine finish to it bears out the statement that its completion occupied six months. The work is backed by royal blue plush, which gives a very pretty effect. The casket presented to His Excellency the Governor is made of teak wood covered with royal blue plush with finely worked silver mountings. The interior of each casket is lined with puffed cream silk. The casket to be presented to the Queen bears the following inscription:—"1837—1897. The Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen Empress. Prayer of the Parsee Community of Hongkong. H. N. Mody, President, June 22, 1897." The inscription on the casket presented to Sir William Robinson is as follows:—"To H. E. Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G." The printing was done by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh and forms a handsome specimen of typographical workmanship. The caskets were the work of Wang Hing.

SWEARING IN MAJOR-GENERAL BLACK AS ACTING GOVERNOR.

Yesterday afternoon a special meeting of the Executive Council, at which the members of the Legislative Council were invited to be present, was held at the Council Chamber for the purpose of swearing in His Excellency Major-General Black, C.B., (Officer commanding the Regular Forces), as officer administering the Government of Hongkong until the arrival of the Governor elect. Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) administered the oath and then congratulated His Excellency the Acting Governor.

Yesterday afternoon a *Government Gazette* Extraordinary was issued containing the following notification.—

It is hereby notified that His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., having left the colony this day, His Excellency Major-General Wilsone Black, C.B., was thereafter duly sworn in by His Honour the Chief Justice in the presence of the Executive Council, and assumed the administration of the Government.

SUPREME COURT.

7th February.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A SPECIAL JURY.

GORHAM V. BENJAMIN, KELLY, AND POTTS.

In this case the plaintiff, Charles Leary Gorham, is an assistant in the Office of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the defendants, S. S. Benjamin, E. S. Kelly, and G. H. Potts, sharebrokers carrying on business in partnership in Hongkong. The plaintiff claims (1) that an account may be taken of all sales and purchases of shares by the defendants for the plaintiff as his brokers, and of all monies received and paid by the defendants for or on account of the plaintiff from the 1st April, 1896, to 15th March, 1897, and (2) that the defendants may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff such amounts, if any, as upon the taking of such account shall be found to be due from the defendants to the plaintiff with interest on the several amounts from the dates when the same became respectively due and payable.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. W. V. Drummond and Mr. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master) appeared for the defendants.

The special jurors were—Messrs. N. A. Siebs, H. H. Kirch, J. Andrew, G. C. Anderson, J. Thurburn, H. N. Mody, and W. Poate.

An interesting discussion arose while the jury were being empanelled.

His Lordship—With regard to Mr. Thurburn, I think as he is a Bank manager he ought to be relieved if possible.

Mr. Francis—He is such a thoroughly satisfactory jurymen that we would like to retain him.

His Lordship—A Bank manager's duties are very important in a commercial community.

Mr. Francis—I will leave the matter in your Lordship's hands, but Mr. Thurburn is quite a satisfactory jurymen as far as we are concerned.

His Lordship—Oh, I quite agree with that. (To Mr. Thurburn.) If you wish to go we will get another jurymen.

The name of Mr. Thomas Jackson was then called, but Mr. Jackson was not in Court.

His Lordship—With regard to Mr. Jackson he has already applied to be excused.

Mr. Francis—I submit, my Lord, that such proceedings are not justified at all. The other gentlemen who have been summoned on the jury have probably as much claim to have their interests served as Mr. Jackson or Mr. Thurburn. I thought there was some special reason in the case of Mr. Thurburn—insufficiency of hands in the office.

His Lordship—The ground on which I excused Mr. Jackson was that his duties are of great importance in a commercial community and of such importance as not to justify him being detained in court several days.

Mr. Francis—That is a question for the Legislative Council and not for this Court.

His Lordship—Mr. Francis, the question is one for me to decide.

Mr. Francis—If your Lordship thinks so I have nothing further to say.

His Lordship—I shall exercise my discretion in the matter.

Mr. B. Layton was then called in place of Mr. Thurburn, who had left the jury box.

Mr. Layton—My Lord, I have no one to look after my particular work and I wish to be excused.

His Lordship, in excusing Mr. Layton, said—What I said in regard to Mr. Thurburn was that he might stand by to see if we could get any jurymen.

Mr. C. C. Cohen was the next name called to fill the only vacancy.

Mr. Cohen—I have no one to look after my work at all.

His Lordship—Mr. Thurburn had better go back into the box.

Mr. Thurburn then took his seat in the jury box and the case proceeded.

Mr. Slade read the pleadings as follows:—

1.—The plaintiff, the above named Charles Leary Gorham, is an assistant in the office of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and is resident in Victoria, Hongkong.

2.—The defendants are also resident in Victoria and trade and carry on business in co-partnership together as share brokers under the style or firm name of Benjamin, Kelly and Potts.

3.—The plaintiff has since the first day of April, 1896, frequently employed the defendants as share brokers to buy and sell for him shares of various Companies and Banks at the most favourable prices and the defendants have bought and sold for the plaintiff for reward to be paid by the plaintiff to the defendants shares to the value of \$1,030,000 or thereabouts in the whole at divers times and in divers parcels since the said 1st day of April, 1896; and they have furnished to the plaintiff on occasion of each such sale or purchase an account showing the amount to be received or paid on the sale or purchase by the plaintiff to or from them and the plaintiff has at all times up to November last accepted such accounts as being true and faithful statements of the transactions of which they professed to be accounts and has settled with the defendants on the basis of such accounts.

4.—On or about the 6th November last the plaintiff instructed the defendants to sell at the best price obtainable 100 shares in the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited, and on the 7th November, 1896, the defendants rendered an account to the plaintiff of a sale by them of the said 100 shares at \$40 and paid to him a sum of \$3,950 in respect thereof being the price of the said shares at \$40 less their brokerage of 50 cents per share. As a matter of fact the defendants sold the said shares on the said 6th day of November at \$41 per share.

5.—On or about the 19th November last the plaintiff instructed the defendants to sell for him 50 shares in the West Point Building Company, Limited, at the best price obtainable

and on the same day the defendants rendered an account to the plaintiff showing the sale by them for account of the plaintiff of the said shares at \$18.50 per share and paid to him the sum of \$912.50 as and for the price of the said 50 shares at \$18.50 per share less their brokerage \$12.50. As a matter of fact the defendants sold the said 50 shares on the said 19th day of November at the price of \$18.75 and received therefor \$937.50.

6.—On or about the 24th November last the plaintiff instructed the defendants to sell for him at the best price obtainable 50 shares in the said West Point Building Company, Limited, at the best price obtainable. The defendants sold the said shares accordingly for the price or sum of \$18.75 per share and received therefor the sum of \$937.50 but they accounted to the plaintiff for the sum of \$925 only and only paid to the plaintiff the sum of \$912.50 being the said sum of \$925 less their brokerage.

7.—The plaintiff has continued to purchase and sell shares through the defendants to the 15th March instant in the hope of being able to obtain further direct evidence of fraud, but he has been unable to ascertain the names of the respective buyers and sellers and the true prices at which the said shares have been bought and sold.

8.—On or about the 19th March the plaintiff applied to the defendants for the full account of all the dealings and transactions between them and him in respect of the purchase and sale of shares during the period of their employment as his brokers but the defendants have refused to render to the plaintiff such full or any account whatsoever.

The plaintiff therefore humbly prays:—

1.—That an account may be taken of all sales and purchases of shares by the defendants for the plaintiff as his brokers and of all monies received and paid by the defendants for or on account of the plaintiff from the 1st day of April, 1896, to the 15th day of March, 1897.

2.—That the defendants may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff such amounts, if any, as upon the taking of such account shall be found to be due from the defendants to the plaintiff with interest on the several amounts from the dates when the same became respectively due and payable.

3.—That the plaintiff may have such further and other relief as the nature of the case may require.

The defendants' answer is as follows:—

1.—The defendants admit the truth of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the petition.

2.—In answer to paragraph 3 of the petition the defendants admit that the plaintiff has since the 1st day of April, 1896, frequently employed the defendants as share brokers to buy and sell for him shares of various Companies and Banks and that the defendants have bought and sold for the plaintiff for reward to be paid by the plaintiff to the defendants shares to the value of \$1,000,000 or thereabouts in the whole at divers times and in divers parcels since the 1st day of April, 1896, and that they have furnished to the plaintiff on occasion of each sale or purchase an account showing the amount to be received or paid on the sale or purchase by the plaintiff from or to them. The defendants further say that the plaintiff has accepted such accounts as being true and faithful statements of the transactions of which they professed to be accounts and has settled with the defendants on the basis of such accounts not only up to November last but also up to and including the 15th day of March, 1897, and the defendants say that the said accounts between themselves and the plaintiff up to and including the said 15th day of March, 1897, which was the most recent date upon which the plaintiff employed the defendants to buy or sell shares on his account, are settled accounts. Prior to the 17th day of March, 1897, the defendants had received no intimation and had not the least suspicion that the plaintiff in any way questioned or doubted the correctness of the accounts rendered by them to him.

3.—In answer to paragraph 4 of the petition the defendants admit that on or about the 6th November last the plaintiff instructed the defendants to sell 100 shares in the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company,

Limited, and that on the 7th November, 1896, the defendants rendered an account to the plaintiff of the sale by them of the said 100 shares at \$40 per share and paid to him a sum of \$3,950 in respect thereof, being the price of the said shares at \$40 per share less their brokerage of 50 cents per share. The defendants deny that they sold the said shares or any part of them either on the 6th day of November, 1896, or on any other date at \$41 per share or at any rate except \$40 per share. As a matter of fact the plaintiff expressly assented to the sale by the defendants of the said shares at the best price obtainable and the defendants in fact sold the said shares on the 6th day of November, 1896, to one Merwanjee Byramjee Polishwalla at the rate of \$40 per share and no more, being the rate specified by them in the said account rendered by them to the plaintiff.

4.—In answer to paragraph 5 of the petition the defendants admit that on the 19th or 20th November last the plaintiff instructed the defendants to sell for him 50 shares in the West Point Building Company, Limited, and that on the 19th or 20th November last the defendants rendered an account to the plaintiff showing the sale by them for account of the plaintiff of the said shares and paid to him the sum of \$912.50 as and for the net proceeds of the said 50 shares less their brokerage. The defendants have kept no copy of the said account which was rendered by them to the plaintiff and they do not admit that the contents of the said account are correctly set out in the petition and they crave leave to refer to the said account when produced by the plaintiff. The defendants admit that they sold the said 50 shares on the said 19th day of November last, at the price of \$18.75 per share and received therefor \$937.50. The defendants, however, say that they had in their hands for sale on the said 19th November last some shares of the West Point Building Company, Limited, which they were authorized to sell at the price of \$18 per share, and that the plaintiff, upon being informed of that fact by the defendants and upon being also informed by the defendants of the fact that they could sell the said shares at so high a rate as \$18.75 per share but that they could only sell the said shares at the said rate of \$18.75 per share to a broker who would not pay them (the defendants) any commission, agreed to sell the said shares at the rate of \$18.75 per share and pay to the defendants double brokerage upon the said shares, that is to say, to pay the buyer's brokerage as well as his own brokerage as seller, thereby reducing the net proceeds of the said shares to \$18.25 per share. The name of the broker to whom the defendants sold the said shares is Isaac Samuel Perry.

5.—In answer to paragraph 6 of the petition the defendants admit that on or about the 24th November last the plaintiff instructed the defendants to sell for him 50 shares in the West Point Building Company, Limited. The defendants also admit that they sold the said shares for the price or sum of \$18.75 per share and received therefor the sum of \$937.50 and they admit that they only paid to the plaintiff the sum of \$912.50. The defendants however deny that they accounted to the plaintiff for the sum of \$925 only and say that they had in their hands for sale on the said 24th November last some shares of the West Point Building Company, Limited, which they were authorized to sell at the price of \$18 per share, and that the plaintiff, upon being informed of that fact by the defendants, and upon being also informed by the defendants of the fact that they could sell the said shares at so high a rate as \$18.75 per share but that they could only sell the said shares at the rate of \$18.75 per share to a broker who would not pay them (the defendants) any commission, agreed to sell the said shares at the rate of \$18.75 per share and to pay to the defendants double brokerage upon the said shares, that is to say, to pay the buyer's brokerage as well as his own brokerage as seller, thereby reducing the net proceeds of the said shares to \$18.25 per share. The name of the broker to whom the defendants sold the said shares is Isaac Samuel Perry.

6.—In answer to paragraph 7 of the petition the defendants admit that the plaintiff has continued to purchase and sell shares through them up to the 15th March, 1897, and the defendants were under the impression that the plaintiff so continued to purchase and sell shares through

them with the same object as theretofore, namely, for the purpose of making money by dealing in shares. The defendants cannot say what hope the plaintiff did or did not entertain in continuing to purchase and sell shares as aforesaid. The defendants deny that the plaintiff has obtained any evidence whatever of fraud either direct or indirect against them or any of them, and they deny that they or any of them have or has been guilty of any fraud whatsoever in their dealings or accounts with the plaintiff. The defendants do not admit that the plaintiff has been unable to ascertain the names of the respective buyers and sellers of shares sold and purchased by the defendants on his account. The defendants deny that the plaintiff has been unable to ascertain the true prices at which the said shares have been bought and sold and they say on the contrary that they have regularly and in the ordinary course of business rendered to the plaintiff from time to time accounts showing the true prices at which the said shares have been bought or sold as the case may be.

7.—In answer to paragraph 8 of the petition the defendants admit that the plaintiff applied to them on or about the 19th of March, 1897, for a full account of all dealings and transactions between them and him in respect of the purchase and sale of shares during the period of their employment as his brokers. The defendants deny that they have refused to render to the plaintiff such full or any account and they state on the contrary that the defendants have from time to time and in the regular course of their business as sharebrokers rendered to the plaintiff accounts in writing in the usual and customary form of the transactions entered into by the defendants on behalf of the plaintiff and they further say that such accounts were true and faithful statements of the transactions of which they professed to be accounts, and that the plaintiff accepted such accounts as correct and has settled with the defendants on the basis of such accounts in such a way as to render such accounts settled accounts. The defendants also say that previously to every transaction relating to the sale and purchase of shares by the defendants for and on account of the plaintiff the plaintiff expressly assented and agreed to the respective prices at which the defendants proposed to sell or purchase such shares.

8.—By way of alternative, and without admitting any legal liability whatever in respect of any of the matters alleged or claimed in the petition, the defendants bring into Court in satisfaction generally of the plaintiff's claims the sum of \$500, and they say (without admitting that any amounts whatever or any interest whatever are due from them to the plaintiff) that the said sum of \$500 is sufficient to cover the total of amounts and the interest thereon which are claimed in paragraph 2 of the prayer of the Petition.

Mr. Francis explained the facts to the jury. He said the plaintiff had for many years dealt in shares. Up to the beginning of April, 1896, he dealt with brokers generally, but to a considerable extent with Mr. G. H. Potts. When Mr. Potts joined the firm of Benjamin and Kelly plaintiff practically transferred all his business through Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts, and, as had been stated in the pleadings, the turn-over of his purchases and sales of shares from the 1st April, 1896, to the middle of March, 1897, totalled about a million of dollars. Nearly all his transactions were for cash and in respect of each transaction an account in the usual form was sent in. Everything went perfectly satisfactorily until the 7th November, 1896, when something occurred which excited Mr. Gorham's suspicion. He had instructed Mr. Kelly on the morning of the 6th to sell 100 Indo-China Steamship Company's shares for him. On the following morning Mr. Kelly reported the sale of those shares at \$40 each, and he incidentally mentioned to Mr. Gorham that if he had held the shares until the 7th the shares would have sold at \$41. Mr. Kelly also mentioned incidentally that on the previous day he had sold 150 shares at \$40 for Shanghai. The same day plaintiff met Mr. J. S. Perry, a sharebroker, in the street and Perry told plaintiff that he had purchased 100 Indo-Chinas on the previous day at \$41 per share for Shanghai. This attracted plaintiff's attention and on enquiring he was informed by Perry

that the shares were purchased from the defendants. He waited a couple of days and Mr. Potts came to him on the 9th and got an order on the Bank for the delivery of the 100 shares, and afterwards he sent in the account. It was dated 7th November and related to the sale of Indo-Chinas at \$40 per share. Later in the afternoon plaintiff went to Perry's office and in the course of conversation asked if he might see the shares which he had bought from the defendants at \$41 per share for Shanghai. He did this professedly for the purpose of ascertaining whether they had actually been bought at \$41. He saw the shares, which were the identical ones he had handed to Mr. Potts to be disposed of, the numbers being 4,726 to 4,825. Astonished at these facts plaintiff took legal advice and consulted Mr. A. B. Johnson. In consequence of that advice he took steps to test the correctness of the defendants' dealings, and on the 18th November he instructed Mr. Potts to sell 50 or 100 West Point Land shares, telling him, having a special object in view, not to press the market, but to sell them if he could. Very shortly afterwards Mr. Potts returned and reported a sale of 100 shares at \$18½, giving at the same time the name of the purchaser. This sale took place before plaintiff had been able to take any further steps, and on the 19th he told Mr. Potts to sell 100 more. He also instructed Mr. Perry to purchase 50 West Points, but of course did not give him any indication of what was on. On the 20th Mr. Perry reported the purchase from the defendants of 50 West Points at \$18½, and in completion of the purchase plaintiff got back from Mr. Perry precisely the same shares that he had sold through Mr. Potts. On the same day Mr. Potts reported to the plaintiff the sale of the shares at \$18½, at which rate he paid the money into the Bank. On the evening of the 21st November plaintiff instructed Mr. R. C. Hurley to purchase through Mr. Perry some more West Point shares and he also instructed Mr. Potts to sell another 25 or 30 shares. On the 24th November Mr. Perry, acting under instructions from Mr. Hurley, applied to the defendants for West Point shares and he purchased from them 50 shares at \$18½. Mr. Potts rendered to the plaintiff an account of the sale of these 50 shares and paid in at the rate of \$18½ per share. Payment of the transaction through Mr. Perry was made by Mr. Hurley's cheque, plaintiff having previously been to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and arranged with them to honour, on his responsibility, Mr. Hurley's cheque. Payment for the first transaction—the shares sold direct by the defendants to Mr. Perry—had been arranged with Mr. Joseph, so that the defendants had no reason to suspect that the plaintiff was the real purchaser, or they would have been put on their guard. Those were the facts in regard to the three transactions on which the jury would have to make their findings. The plaintiff continued to do business with the defendants, but to a very limited extent, up to March, 1897. His reason was that he had been advised to allow their annual accounts and books to close and not to take action until the year was over. There was a second reason that he had pending with the defendants at that time, a rather large transaction in Bank shares in Shanghai which he did not wish to endanger in any way. On the 17th March Mr. Gorham wrote the following letter to Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts:—

Hongkong, 17th, March, 1897.

Messrs. Benjamin Kelly & Potts, Hongkong.

Gentlemen,—Some months ago certain facts came to my knowledge causing me to entertain grave doubts as to whether you had been dealing fairly with me in your capacity as my brokers in the sale and purchase of stocks for me. The belief was forced on me that you had not properly accounted to me for monies received for my account and my suspicions have since become so far confirmed that I now feel compelled to request you to submit your books, containing all the entries in which I am interested, for the inspection of myself and my accountant.—An early answer will oblige, yours faithfully.

C. L. GORHAM.

In consequence of that letter Mr. Kelly made his appearance in the plaintiff's office on the

following day. They had a conversation and in the result plaintiff wrote again as follows:—

Hongkong, 18th March, 1897.

Messrs. Benjamin Kelly and Potts.

Gentlemen,—Referring to my conversation of yesterday with your Mr. Kelly, in which he stated that he was prepared to supply me with a full account of all the transactions in which your firm have acted as my brokers, I would ask you to be good enough to let me have this in the course of to-day. The account should show not only the amounts paid to you by the purchasers of the shares but also the names of such purchasers.—Your faithfully.

C. L. GORHAM.

The result of that letter was a visit by Kelly and Potts to the plaintiff, particulars of which would be given in evidence. On the 12th March Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, plaintiff's solicitors, wrote as follows to the defendants:—

Hongkong, 19th March, 1897.

Dear Sirs,—We have been instructed by Mr. C. L. Gorham to apply to you for a full account of all transactions between you and himself in which you have been employed by him as his brokers for the purpose of buying or selling shares. We understand that he has already himself desired you to render him this account and that your Mr. Kelly undertook to supply him with it but afterwards appeared unwilling to do so. Our instructions are that unless a complete account showing the names of purchasers from and sellers to our client and the actual amounts paid and received by them respectively be rendered before 3 o'clock this afternoon legal proceedings must then be commenced against you to compel compliance with our client's demand. We sincerely trust that the unpleasantness to us of having to proceed to extremes may be rendered unnecessary by your sending us the account required before the time we have named. We understand that our client's transactions have not been so numerous as to make it difficult for you to prepare the account in one or two hours at most.—Yours faithfully,

WILKINSON & GRIST.

Messrs. Benjamin Kelly & Potts.

The defendants then seemed to have placed the matter in the hands of their solicitors, who wrote as follows to the plaintiff's solicitors:—

12, Queen's Road Central

Hongkong, 19th March, 1897.

Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist.

Dear Sirs,—Messrs. Benjamin Kelly & Potts have handed us your letter to them of this date written on behalf of Mr. C. L. Gorham and instructed us to reply to it as follows:—

On the 17th instant they received from Mr. Gorham a letter of which we beg to enclose a copy.

This letter appears to them to contain a charge of dishonesty on their part in their dealings with Mr. Gorham, and you will see from the letter that the facts upon which Mr. Gorham appears to rely, whatever they are, came to his knowledge, as he says, some months ago.

Notwithstanding this he made no communication whatever on the subject to any member of our clients' firm but continued to transact share business through them up to as recent a date as the 1st instant.

On receipt of Mr. Gorham's letter of the 17th instant Mr. Kelly called and saw him upon it and offered him inspection of all his transactions in the firm's books and to compare the same with his books and added that it would not take him half an hour to do so. This offer Mr. Gorham stated he would consider and would call on the following day but he did not do so and on the 18th instant wrote a second letter of which we also enclose a copy.

Messrs. Kelly & Potts saw Mr. Gorham on the subject of his second letter the same afternoon and again offered him inspection of his transactions in the firm's books.

This offer is now repeated to you and through you to Mr. Gorham and you alone or you and Mr. Gorham together can call and inspect his various transactions in the books upon an appointment being made for that purpose. Any entries which Mr. Gorham may subsequently question or desire information upon will be explained.

As Mr. Gorham has received a full account with each transaction it appears unnecessary that his present request should be complied with

until he indicates which transactions he disputes. As to such, on his stating where they appear to him to be incorrect, full explanations will be forthcoming.

The transactions with Mr. Gorham have, our clients inform us, been very numerous and to now make out a full and detailed account will take some time, certainly longer than from the time they received your letter until 3 p.m. to-day, but in the face of Mr. Gorham's letter of the 17th instant our clients do not feel disposed to render this account until Mr. Gorham affords them some *prima facie* proof that he has any right to make such statements as those contained in his letter of the 17th instant.

If Mr. Gorham had, when he first commenced to feel dissatisfied, stated this to our clients and asked them in a friendly way to show him their books and explain such items as he was not satisfied about the request would have been cheerfully and readily complied with, but now that he demands an account as of right, and with the evident intention of trying to find some flaw in it upon which to base legal proceedings our clients prefer that he should at once commence such legal proceedings as he may be advised.—Yours faithfully,

JOHNSON, STOKES, & MASTER.

The first part of the letter was a resumé by defendants' own solicitors of what had occurred and of what had been offered up to that time, but the latter part of the letter was rather inconsistent and yet was probably capable of explanation. In consequence of the express offer contained in the letter the plaintiff and Mr. Wilkinson attended at the defendants' office on the following day, but the defendants refused to show the books unless the plaintiff in the first instance stated what particular transactions they questioned. The letter first of all expressly stated that the plaintiff could see the firm's books and if on examining them he wished for an explanation the explanation would be given to him, but the offer was afterwards narrowed down to a refusal to allow him to inspect any portion of the books unless he specified the complaint he had against the defendants, and the plaintiff had therefore nothing to do but to commence legal proceedings. The claim which the plaintiff was making was not a money claim. He was asking for certain accounts, and the only question before the Court and the jury was whether or not he was entitled to an order from the Court that the defendants should render to him accounts of their transactions from the 1st April, 1896, to March, 1897. The foundation of the case was the relationship between the parties. The plaintiff was the principal and the defendants were his agents, and in law and in equity also the very strictest good faith was required to exist between the agent and the principal, and the principal was entitled at any time to call upon the agent to render full and complete accounts of all his dealings and transactions with the principal. It was evident that accounts had been rendered by the agents to the principal in this case in respect of each transaction and that those accounts had been accepted as being perfectly *bona fide*, the plaintiff having placed full reliance upon the defendant firm up to the date of the first discovery. The defendants set up in their answer that the accounts were settled accounts. Plaintiff admitted that to the fullest extent. It was a rule of law applicable in all cases that where there were set accounts between parties the Court would not order them to be re-opened or re-examined unless it was proved to the Court that there was in those accounts either fraud or grave error. Plaintiff's case was that there was in the three accounts mentioned either a very grave mistake which justified enquiry, or deliberate fraud. It would be for the Court to say after the jury's finding on the facts whether or not there was a fraud or an error in the accounts sufficiently grave or of such a character as to justify the Court in directing the opening of the accounts. The only questions for the jury were whether there were errors in the accounts or not and whether the plaintiff authorized the charge for double brokerage.

The plaintiff was then called and he bore out the opening statement of counsel. He spoke of the interviews he had with the defendants, with Mr. Perry, and with Mr. Hurley. Witness denied that he had authorized the defendants to

charge double brokerage in respect of the accounts mentioned in the case. On one occasion in respect of a transaction in 150 Banks he did authorize the defendants to charge double brokerage. The sale had been effected at a very good rate and Mr. Kelly asked if he could charge double brokerage as it was a very large business and he had had to pay for telegrams and stamps, &c. Witness allowed the double brokerage. Respecting an interview with Mr. Kelly witness said he told him the firm had not treated him honestly. Kelly said, "If we have done anything we will pay you back. Tell me what it is." Witness refused to give him any particulars. Kelly said, "What are you going to do, Gorham? What is the punishment, Gorham?" He appeared to be very nervous and, while fingering his watch chain, said, "If your boy takes your watch and he gives it back to you you cannot kill him; you must forgive him and take back your watch." Witness said, "It is all very fine, but if your boy takes your watch you must open his box to see what else he has taken." Witness refused to give any particulars of any of the transactions and therefore he was not shown the books. Subsequently he went to Mr. Master's office and was informed that he could not see the books. He was asked to mention any particular transaction and when he refused to do this Mr. Master said, "You are here fishing for grounds on which to base an action." Mr. Wilkinson, who was present at the interview, said that that was not inspecting the books. Mr. Master replied, "Well, here are the books. Go and do what you like." Witness went away and commenced legal proceedings.

Cross-examined by Mr. Drummond.—Witness had been in the colony 24 years and had been in the habit of dealing in shares for the last 10, 12, or 15 years. He could not recall any occasion prior to November, 1896, on which he spoke to Mr. Potts about the sale of Indo-Chinas. He had been anxious to sell them as the market was falling. He could not recollect that Mr. Potts advised him not to sell. At one time—before November, 1896, and probably in September—he was dissatisfied with Mr. Potts, but they "made it up" again. Witness did not, prior to the 6th November, urge Mr. Potts to sell the Indo-Chinas. He had reason at that time to put his account in the Chartered Bank on a sounder footing, but there was no particular reason why he wished to ease his account by selling Indo-Chinas. He first communicated with Mr. Kelly about the shares. Up to November, 1896, he had no suspicion "of that sort" of any member of the firm. Once he was dissatisfied with the result of some business put through by Mr. Potts, but he had no suspicion that Mr. Potts was making any false transactions. Witness thought Mr. Potts was not sufficiently studying his interests. That was two or three months before November and concerned, he thought, some Rope shares. Mr. Potts sold some shares for him and a day or two afterwards the market went up. Witness told Benjamin and Kelly that he was not satisfied with Potts and that Kelly must see him instead of Potts. Witness could not give the exact date on which he commenced to do business through Kelly. He authorized Kelly to sell 100 Indo-Chinas at the best rate he could get for cash. He did not tell Kelly after the shares were sold that they had fetched \$41, nor did he give any intimation of the suspicion in his mind or give Kelly any chance of clearing the matter up.

8th February.

Mr. Drummond continued his cross-examination of the plaintiff. Witness said that he did tell his solicitors that he had consulted Mr. Johnson, and he knew that within the last few days Mr. Wilkinson had applied for the production of certain entries in Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master's diary relating to the visits to Mr. Johnson. Witness gave Mr. Johnson a comrade's order for \$15. He did not wish any other members of the firm to know that he had been visiting Mr. Johnson, as he wished to get merely the private opinion of that gentleman. The charge for that consultation was \$5, and the remaining \$10 referred to previous attendances on other business. Witness did not think that the memorandum for \$15 produced was the

one which Mr. Johnson sent to him. The instructions to sell the West Point shares, which were bought by Mr. Cobbold on the 18th November, were given in order to catch the defendants. Mr. Potts told him that Mr. Cobbold was the purchaser. Mr. Potts put through that transaction, but witness did not remember who put through the Bank shares on the 17th November. Mr. Potts transacted the business in West Points on the 20th November. Witness did not know why the entry in his diary of the 20th November was omitted from his affidavit. He swore that the entry was in his diary when he made the affidavit on the 17th May, 1897. The entry relates to the first sale of West Points about which he had made a charge. There was an entry of the sale of 50 West Points at \$18½ on the 24th November. There was no entry of the name of the purchaser, as witness was himself the purchaser through Mr. Hurley. He received an account from Mr. Perry and Mr. Hurley about the 26th November showing that the shares had been sold at \$18½. When witness had the three accounts in his possession he thought he had sufficient evidence to show that the defendants had treated him dishonestly, but he thought more evidence would do no harm. All the sales were put through by Mr. Potts. Witness thought it was extremely advisable not to convey his suspicions to the defendants, as he did not care to bring up the matter until the end of the year, when the books were closed. He still went on employing the defendants "in a way." He employed them on a number of selling transactions, but he bought nothing from them. He bought 140 Watsons in December, his object being to sell them again for the purposes of a trap for the defendants, but he did not do anything with the shares. He sometimes employed Mr. Potts and sometimes Mr. Kelly. As far as his recollection went Watsons were the only shares he bought, but there were selling transactions up to the 17th March, 1897. Two days before that he sold 100 Nationals through Mr. Potts. By employing defendants "in a way" he meant that he limited his transactions. He only bought Watsons, and he sold shares to reduce his overdraft at the Bank. The manner in which he conducted those transactions was in no way different from the ordinary course. He did not recollect employing any other brokers. To the best of his recollection he transacted the whole of his business through the defendants, except the business of the two lots of shares put through by Mr. Perry. He sold the 100 Nationals for the purpose of obtaining more evidence, but that transaction was a straightforward one and Mr. Potts told him Mr. Perry had bought the shares. He sold the 150 Bank shares at 181 on the 27th November for delivery on the 31st December. He swore he had no recollection of a written contract, but if there was one he thought he could produce it. There was also another time transaction in Banks, the rate being 186½ for February settlement, 1897. He had no recollection of a contract, but if there was one he would produce it. Mr. Kelly transacted the business. Witness could not say whether he received only a memorandum, which contained no numbers, from Mr. Kelly relating to the business. Witness knew he trusted himself entirely to the integrity and straightforwardness of Mr. Kelly in those transactions, but Mr. Kelly was bound to be straightforward; he could not help himself. The position witness took up was that there were grave errors or a fraud in the defendants' accounts to him. In his mind most assuredly it was fraud that had been committed by them, but he had no recollection of having used that term to them. He did not recollect that he told anyone that he did not charge defendants with fraud. He did not recollect telling Mr. Perry that. He did not recollect the second paragraph of the petition respecting the attempts to get further evidence. He left the matter in the hands of his solicitors. He was certainly consulted about the case, but he did not advise his solicitors how to draw up legal documents. He certainly was in hopes of obtaining additional evidence. He remembered seeing Mr. Benjamin at the tram station somewhere about April, 1897, and having a conversation with him. Mr. Benjamin requested him not to take the matter into court and said he would pay the costs. Witness told him he would like

to see what the costs were, so that he could tell how he stood. To the best of witness's recollection Mr. Benjamin spoke about the Indo-Chinas and the West Points and said that Potts told him he had arranged for double brokerage. Witness said that that was not so. Mr. Benjamin said, "Well, Potts says so. Anyhow, it's only a matter of \$25, and you would not go to court for \$25." Witness replied, "I should go to court not for the \$25 but for the account." Mr. Potts went and saw witness on the following day. Witness did not then say he wanted to make a business proposal with Mr. Potts, but that he wanted his account. Mr. Potts did not say he did not understand what was meant. Witness did not say "Go and ask Mr. Benjamin about it," but witness did remember Mr. Potts saying, "I am prepared to swear you said you would give double brokerage, and you have no documentary evidence. It will be my word against yours and my word will be taken as well as yours." Witness did not tell him to think about it, nor did he say "I am a business man and I am not out here for the benefit of my health." Witness was acting on the advice of his solicitor and was careful in what he said.

After the adjournment Mr. Francis intimated that the plaintiff had been unable to look through all his papers and had not found the contracts spoken of in his evidence, but he would try to find them by this morning.

In re-examination by Mr. Francis witness said he did not remember whether he or Mr. Johnson suggested he should continue to do business with the defendants with a view to entrapping them.

Isaac Samuel Perry said he had been in business in Hongkong as a share and general broker since 1891 or 1892. On the 6th November he received a wire from Shanghai instructing him to buy 100 Indo-Chinas at \$41 and other shares. He purchased the Indo-Chinas at \$41 from Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts. He took delivery of the shares from them on the 9th and paid for them by cheque on the National Bank. On the 7th he bought 50 Indo-Chinas at \$41. He reported the purchases to Shanghai on the 10th. The difference between \$41 and \$40½ was the brokerage allowed him by Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts. He took the scrip to the National Bank. On the 7th he met the plaintiff, who asked him about the state of the share market. He replied that as far as he knew there was very little doing. Plaintiff then asked him the quotation for Indo-Chinas and witness replied "\$41," adding that he had done business for the North at that rate. Plaintiff asked him if he was quite sure it was \$41 or better, and witness again said that he had done business at that figure. In reply to another question he said he got the shares from Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts. On the 9th plaintiff saw him and gave him instructions to sell forward some Indo-China shares. On the 19th November he purchased 50 West Points from the defendants at \$18.75 on behalf of the plaintiff, to whom he took the shares. Witness then mentioned the transaction with Mr. Hurley, for whom he bought 50 West Points at \$18.75. He did not know that Mr. Hurley was buying for the plaintiff. Mr. Hurley said he had a few dollars to speculate with and he gave no reasons whatever for buying the shares.

Cross-examined by Mr. Drummond.—It was not right that witness bought 150 Indo-Chinas at \$41 for the plaintiff on the 6th November; he only bought 100. The plaintiff must have misunderstood witness if he gave the number as 150. Witness was told by plaintiff that he (plaintiff) had consulted Mr. Johnson about the share transactions. Later plaintiff said, "I am not bringing an action for fraud. I am bringing an action for the discovery of accounts. Unless I can show grave error or fraud I cannot get the accounts." That conversation took place about July or August last year, when witness went to the plaintiff on behalf of Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts with a view to a settlement of the matter.

Re-examined.—Witness went to the plaintiff with a view to a postponement of the case and not, as he had erroneously stated, with a view to a settlement. He went to the plaintiff at the request of Benjamin and Kelly. It was possible that he may have mentioned to Mr. Gorham on the afternoon of the 7th that he had bought

150 Indo-Chinas shares, although he might not have mentioned dates.

By His Lordship—Witness was sure he had no hint of any trap being laid for the defendants. Between the 17th and 20th March, 1897, Mr. Benjamin said to witness, "Wonderful! Gorham, when he wants to buy or sell, never writes. It seems very funny this time. His action lately has been very curious and I should not be surprised if he is the buyer of the 100 Nationals I bought." Witness said, "Is he the seller?" Benjamin replied, "Yes," and witness said, "Then he is the buyer."

9th February.

Mr. Francis intimated that the plaintiff had found the required documents and also Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master's account.

Plaintiff was then recalled and cross-examined by Mr. Drummond. Witness read one document as follows:—"27th November 1896. C. L. Gorham, Esq. Dear Sir.—Please note that we have this day sold under your instructions 150 shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for delivery on the 31st December, 1896, at 181 per cent. premium per share.—Yours faithfully, Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts, brokers." There were no numbers on this note. Witness was aware that without any numbers he could not have enforced the contract if the purchaser had repudiated it. He did not know the name of the principal in that transaction. There was no way of finding out except by asking the brokers, and he did not recollect that he did ask them; he did not think he did.

Mr. Drummond—You had to trust to them entirely?

Witness—If they had refused to take them up they would not have been taken up by them.

Witness read another document from the brokers dated 27th November, carrying forward the sale at 186½ per cent. premium per share to February, 1897. That was the only paper he had with the exception of a contract from Shanghai. There were no numbers on that contract: Shanghai contracts did not require numbers. He could not recollect the name of the principal in the transaction. Messrs Johnson, Stokes, and Master's account, which he produced, was exactly the same as that which was produced on Monday. That was the only bill he had received from that firm of solicitors. He still said that the last charge related to attendance on matters connected with this suit, although it was dated June 18th, or rather there were ditto marks to June 18th. He did not know at first that he had that document; he thought he only had the compradore's order. Witness could not say whether he was asked to look through all his papers in connection with the case. He could not recollect Mr. Wilkinson putting a question to him in that form. He was asked lately to look for the bill. To the best of his recollection that was within the last fortnight. It did not occur to him before that to look up the Johnson episode as far as this document was concerned. He did make a search, but until the point was suggested to him by Mr. Wilkinson it did not occur to him to look for the particular papers. He did not know it would be required, but he knew of course that he had consulted Mr. Johnson.

Re-examined by Mr. Francis—The first sale paper related to 100 shares he had bought in August and 50 in September. At the end of November, finding it would not be convenient to take up the shares, he sold them, and as he had the same number of shares for delivery in Shanghai he bought the same shares for February. He still said that he consulted Mr. Johnson about this matter in November, 1896, and he believed, when he was paying the bill, that he was paying for the two previous transactions and that particular one.

R. C. Hurley said he was taking photographs, publishing guide books, and trying other means of earning a living. In November, 1896, plaintiff asked him to purchase 50 West Point shares through Mr. Perry. The transaction was settled on the 26th November. He took the scrip and deposited it in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. He paid for the shares by cheque on the Bank for \$950. Plaintiff had arranged with the Bank in regard to the cheque.

Cross-examined by Mr. Drummond—He did not recollect that he told Mr. Perry he had a few dollars to invest. He did not have a few dollars to invest. He did not make a memorandum of the transaction, although he thought plaintiff asked him to do so.

Mr. Francis intimated that Mr. Drummond had saved him the trouble of calling witnesses from the Bank to identify the shares. The defence were prepared to admit that they were the same shares that were sold and purchased in each of the three transactions.

Mr. G. C. C. Master, solicitor, said Mr. Johnson was in the colony in November, 1896. Witness produced the firm's diary. The entries were made under the names of the clients. The only entry on the 18th June relating to the plaintiff referred to advice given to him in regard to an agreement with Chung Yau. There was no entry relating to the plaintiff in November. Witness did not know that Mr. Johnson had any other diary. He may have jotted down items on a piece of paper and entered them in the book on the following day.

Cross-examined by Mr. Drummond—Mr. Johnson never mentioned to witness that Gorham had consulted him about this particular case. He first heard the report last January that plaintiff had consulted Mr. Johnson. The report came through one of the defendants, who said that plaintiff had told him he had a receipt from Mr. Johnson. Defendants' solicitors applied for a commission to take the evidence of Mr. Kelly in England.

Re-examined—The commission was not executed at the request of the defendants, who paid the costs.

By his Lordship—On page 50 of the diary there were the figures 1896. The date was crossed out, but it looked like November. The entry was also scratched out, and witness did not know whether it related to the attendance by Mr. Johnson on Mr. Gorham.

Mr. Francis said the word "November," was quite clear, and he could also make out part of "Benjamin."

His Lordship agreed that "November" could be made out, and the entry was then passed round to the jury.

Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, solicitor, said he received the plaintiff's diary before the affidavit of documents was prepared. There was an entry in the diary of the 20th November. That entry was in the diary when witness first received it. It was in consequence of that entry and the entry on the 18th that he went and saw Mr. Cobbold.

Cross-examined by Mr. Drummond—Witness's clerk made out the affidavit of documents and witness checked it over and found an entry of the 21st was omitted. Witness could not say why the entry of the 20th was omitted unless it appeared to him that it related to a transaction which had nothing to do with this case. That was pure conjecture. The omission was not mentioned to him until Tuesday.

This concluded the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Drummond then addressed the jury on behalf of the defendants. He asked them to bear in mind some of the main issues involved in the case. The starting point of the case was the 6th November, 1896. The jury had to look at the position of the plaintiff. He was a man who, according to his own statement, was in the habit of speculating largely, and he might have had trouble and anxiety in connection with the large volume of business he was doing. It was not uncommon for a man who had trouble and anxiety to blame the unfortunate broker whom he employed. They had it that the plaintiff was not well disposed towards Mr. Potts. Plaintiff evidently possessed a suspicious mind and would suspect any man of a grave dereliction of duty, and it was in consequence of that characteristic that this case had gone the length it had. On the 6th November he asked Kelly or Potts to sell for him 100 Indo-China shares at the best price obtainable. He was told that \$40 was the best price and he received an account at that rate. So far nothing could have raised his suspicion. On the next day he met Mr. Perry. Plaintiff had stated that Mr. Perry told him he had sold 150 Indo-Chinas for the North at \$41 on the previous day. Mr. Perry, in his evidence, had said that it was utterly impossible that he could have said he sold 150 and that he never did say that. However, upon that slender foundation the

whole of this case was made out. When he learned that, he was, he said, dead sure he had been cheated. The statement aroused a strong feeling of suspicion in his mind, and he allowed that strong suspicion to grow into a dead certainty. Was that the man to come here and charge a firm with committing gross fraud? Ought he not in all decency to have taken every step he could to satisfy his mind before he allowed himself to be dead sure and before he made a charge against the defendants? He certainly ought to have gone to the defendants and asked them to explain the apparent discrepancy in the transactions. According to his own statement Mr. Johnson said to him, "Why don't you go and see Benjamin, Kelly, and Potts and have it out?" He did not do that and his action could not therefore commend itself to the jury's mind. He refused to do anything which would give the defendants a chance of making an explanation at the moment. For four long months he went on, as he had described, laying traps to catch the defendants. Counsel submitted that the plaintiff did not do that, the statement being utterly inconsistent with his actions. Only a very few days after these particular transactions he went to the defendants and arranged with them to make transactions which would enable him to make a settlement in February. Counsel contended that there was nothing to show that the defendants had been guilty of fraud; it was not likely that they would do anything which would ruin them in their business for the total sum of \$125. That was the sole claim made by the plaintiff in this big suit, but he also wished to make an inspection of books and so he brought this charge of fraud. Did the jury think for one moment that the defendants had been guilty of deliberate fraud upon the plaintiff in any one of the three cases? If the jury did think so of course it would remain for the defendants to go through their case to the very end and satisfy the jury that they had not committed fraud. It was perfectly within the jury's power, if they were now satisfied that the plaintiff had utterly failed to prove the charge of fraud, to say they were so satisfied, and they would be saved from remaining in court several days more and going through a long defence. Counsel could not help feeling that that must be the impression in the jury's mind. He asked them to consider the matter carefully and to ask themselves if it was really necessary for the defendants to call witnesses and go through a long explanation of everyone of the items. The evidence of the defendants would prove an explanation of every one of the three charges in accordance with the statements made in their answer. If that was the case it was perfectly competent for the jury to settle the case on the facts as they had already been brought before them. He thought the jury would agree with him that the plaintiff was a very suspicious man. Were the jury satisfied with his conduct in the witness box? Was it on the whole satisfactory? Had he proved himself a straightforward, open, and truthful witness in every particular and a man on whose word they could find three men guilty of the grave charges he brought against them. The jury must have been struck by the fact that the plaintiff had a most remarkable memory, besides being a suspicious gentleman. The words "do not recollect" were in nearly every answer he gave in cross-examination. Now and again he remembered bits of conversation—things that would tell greatly in his favour. He told those things in a most graphic way and word for word; but when he dealt with other instances of important facts bearing on the case his almost invariable answer was, "I do not recollect." Nothing more could be got from him. The defence was that there had been an intermediate sale of these shares. The shares were sold by the defendants on the instructions of the plaintiff to a man named Polishwalla, and Polishwalla re-sold them to the defendants, who in turn told them to Mr. Perry. It was a very common thing in this colony for shares to be sold twice in the same day, not by actual transfer of the scrip, but by contracts. If that happened once in regard to one transaction the same thing explained the other transactions.

His Lordship—If the defendants wish to suggest that, you ought to open with that.

Mr. Drummond—The answer discloses the name of Polishwalla as the purchaser.

Mr. Francis—I do not like to interrupt my Lord, but my friend is a stranger to this Court, and what he has done and is doing is wholly irregular. He has been summing up the plaintiff's case, and has been appealing to the jury in a most improper and most irregular fashion. If he had intended to make such an appeal and to rely upon the weakness of the plaintiff's case I ought to have summed up the plaintiff's case first before my friend addressed the jury, and I would ask your Lordship, if necessary, to instruct the jury before they separate for tiffin that they are not at liberty to consider the question of the plaintiff's case until I have had an opportunity of summing it up.

His Lordship—I think the counsel for the defence is entitled to suggest to the jury that there is no case for them to answer and that they ought to return a verdict in favour of the defendants.

Mr. Francis—But not to take that chance and then to go on with the evidence.

His Lordship—He cannot ask the jury formally to do it. He can only suggest and they can act on the suggestion if they like. I do not like the counsel to stand on two legs like that, and if one leg fails to rely on the other. I think you ought to open your evidence, Mr. Drummond.

Mr. Drummond said he thought he was quite right in doing what he had, as everybody's time was valuable, and if the plaintiff's case had broken down it was no good to go on with the hearing. He mentioned that some time ago he adopted exactly the same course in that court before. His learned friend Mr. Francis was for the plaintiff and he was instructed by Mr. Wilkinson. That case was tried before Sir James Russell, and at the conclusion of the plaintiff's case, which had occupied some time, he (counsel) asked the jury if they thought the plaintiff had proved his case. They said they did not want to hear the evidence for the defence and gave their verdict straight off. His Lordship entirely approved of that course.

Mr. Francis said his recollection was that the jury interposed in that case and it was more on a point of law that the plaintiff lost. He submitted that his friend had acted irregularly in summing up and commenting on the plaintiff's case more than was necessary.

His Lordship—I cannot say that Mr. Drummond is acting outside his rights.

Mr. Francis—Not acting outside his rights but acting irregularly—that is your opinion, my lord?

The adjournment for tiffin was then taken. His Lordship, in addressing the jury, said that Mr. Drummond had mentioned that if the defence was gone into it would involve a good deal of evidence. He was quite sure that that would not influence the jury one way or the other.

Mr. Siebs (foreman of the jury)—I think, my Lord, we must hear the defence.

His Lordship—Then, Mr. Drummond, you will have to open your case.

After the adjournment Mr. Drummond said he would call evidence to show that the Indo-China shares were bought by Mr. Polishwalla at \$40 and that afterwards Mr. Polishwalla, thinking it would be better to sell the shares, resold them to the defendants, who disposed of them to Mr. Perry for \$41. That was the simple explanation of all the transactions. In other words, there was an intermediate sale of the shares between the time that the plaintiff sold them to the time Mr. Perry bought them. If that fact was proved to the jury's satisfaction it completely answered all the charges of fraud, as the circumstances connected with the second and third charges were almost identically the same as in the first charge. It would also be proved that plaintiff consented to a double brokerage being charged in connection with the sale of West Point shares.

George Frederick Hutton Potts was then called. He said he was one of the defendants and joined the firm on the 1st April, 1896. Plaintiff had been in the habit of giving him business prior to that date—since December, 1893. Witness had generally been on friendly terms with the plaintiff and did many transactions with him after April, 1896. Some weeks before the 6th November plaintiff wished to sell Indo-Chinas, but witness advised him to hold on. During that time the tendency of the market in Indo-Chinas was downward. On the 6th

November witness went to the Chartered Bank and Mr. Whitehead asked him to sell 50 Indo-Chinas. He then went to the Pacific Mail Company's office and plaintiff asked him to sell 100 Indo-Chinas. Witness said he had absolutely no buyers. Plaintiff again said he wished to sell the shares, and witness said "I will see what Kelly can do." He went to Kelly and returned to plaintiff, telling him the shares could be sold for \$40. Witness again saw Kelly, who said he would close at that. Witness asked him who the buyer was and he said, "125 to Polishwalla and 25 to a friend of Polishwalla." Witness read the following entries in the firm's books:—"75 Indo-Chinas bought from C. L. Gorham at \$40; sold to M. B. Polishwalla. Credit, \$2,962.50; debit 3,037.50; brokerage \$75 cash. Cheque 7.11.96." The second entry was:—"50 Indo-Chinas bought from Chartered Bank, \$40; credit \$1,975; bought by M. B. Polishwalla. Debit \$2,025; brokerage \$50 cash. Cheque 7.11.96." The third entry was:—"25 Indo-Chinas bought from C. L. Gorham, \$40; credit \$987.50; sold to M. B. Polishwalla. Debit \$1,012.50; brokerage, \$25 cash. Cheque 7.11.96." All the entries, with the exception of the names of the buyer, were written by witness. The plaintiff was very disagreeable that morning. He was angry with witness for not having sold the shares before. After tiffin Mr. Perry went to witness's office and showed the telegram he had received from Shanghai respecting 100 Indo-Chinas. Witness said, "I have none for sale myself, but I will speak to Kelly." Witness walked over to Kelly's desk and told him that Perry wanted 100 Indo-Chinas at \$41, but he could not give \$41, as it was a sale to a broker. Mr. Kelly said "Give Mr. Perry 100 at \$40½." Mr. Perry took the shares, and nothing more occurred that day with regard to Indo-Chinas. That transaction was entered in the book as follows:—"November 6th. 100 Indo-Chinas bought from M. B. Polishwalla, \$40½, sold to J. S. Perry; brokerage \$25 cash. Credit, \$4,025; debit, \$4,075." On the following day witness went away from the colony with Mr. Whitehead and returned on the 9th. On the morning of the 20th November Mr. Perry met witness and asked him for 50 West Points. Witness said he would give him 50 at \$18½. Perry tried to get them cheaper. He closed the transaction at once. Shortly afterwards witness met Kelly and told him of this transaction and said he was going to give the sale to Gorham. Kelly said, "You can get them much cheaper, so ask Gorham to allow the double brokerage." Witness saw Gorham, told him of the sale of 50 West Points at \$18½, and asked him if he would allow them to charge the double brokerage. Gorham agreed to allow the double brokerage. Witness told him at the time that there were cheaper rates, and Gorham was pleased with the sale. When agreeing to the double brokerage Gorham said, "Yes, brother, that's all right."

His Lordship—He said what?

Witness—He said—"Yes, brother, that's all right." He always used to call me brother, my Lord. (Laughter.)

Witness, continuing, said two days previously he sold 100 West Point shares to Mr. Cobbold for the plaintiff. The entry in the book was:—"November 18th. 100 West Points bought from C. L. Gorham, \$18½, credit, \$1,875; sold to Rev. R. F. Cobbold; debit, \$1,875; brokerage \$50 cash." If plaintiff had not agreed to the double brokerage he would probably have not had the sale of the West Point shares. The shares could have been got at \$18 at that time. On the 24th November Perry again asked witness for 50 West Points. Witness said he could give him 50 on the same terms as the last lot and he closed. Witness told Mr. Kelly and also plaintiff of this transaction. Plaintiff, in answer to a question by witness, said he would allow double brokerage and that closed the transaction. An entry was made of the transaction in the book. Witness produced the cheque in payment for the shares.

10th February.

Mr. Siebs, the foreman of the jury, said that they did not wish to sit on Friday as it was mail day.

His Lordship—Well, gentlemen, we have Mr. Drummond here from Shanghai.

Mr. Drummond—Do not consult me, my Lord, I do not wish the jury to be inconvenienced.

It was then arranged not to sit to-day and to resume to-morrow.

Mr. Siebs—Can the jury have \$10 a instead of \$10 for the case, my Lord?

His Lordship—That is a matter for the parties, gentlemen.

Mr. Mody (one of the jurors)—Our time is very valuable, my Lord, and even \$10 a day will not repay us.

Mr. Drummond—I am quite willing, my Lord.

Mr. Francis—So are we. I could not offer it, because it is the defendants' jury.

His Lordship—The case may last a little longer, gentlemen. (Laughter.)

Mr. G. H. Potts, one of the plaintiffs, again went into the box and Mr. Drummond continued his examination in chief, intimating that he wished to ask the witness about all the transactions he had put through on behalf of the plaintiff from the 17th November up to the time the action commenced. Witness then read entries from his day book of cash transactions put through for Mr. Gorham on the following dates:—November 17th, November 18th, November, 24th, December 1st, December 7th, December 10th, December 12th, December 14th (two transactions), January 27th, February 1st, and March 15th. From another book witness read entries of time transactions put through on behalf of the plaintiff on November 27th (two transactions), December 12th (two), and February 22nd.

A discussion then arose as to whether the time book was being put in as evidence.

Mr. Drummond said the book was put in for the purpose of refreshing the witness's memory, but he was quite willing that the jury should see the book.

Mr. Francis said he objected to the entries being marked unless the book was put in as evidence so that any item in them could be referred to.

His Lordship said the book had not been put in as evidence in itself.

Mr. Francis continued to object to the book being seen by the jury unless it was put in as evidence, and it was agreed that the jury should not see the book.

Witness, continuing, said that he had no idea that the plaintiff was in any way suspicious of the defendant firm. The first thing that happened that led him to think the plaintiff entertained suspicions was the receipt of the letter of the 17th March. Witness received the writ in the action in the same month. He remembered having a conversation with the plaintiff on the 10th April, a gymkhana day. On the previous day plaintiff had met Mr. Benjamin and had talked over the case. It was in consequence of that conversation that witness went and saw the plaintiff in his private room above his office shortly after two o'clock in the afternoon. No one else was present. Witness asked him what he meant by bringing the action. Plaintiff said he did not wish to discuss the matter, but he wished witness to make a business proposal. Witness said, "Mr. Gorham, I do not understand what you mean." He said, "Oh, you are a business man, you understand." Witness said, "I do not." Plaintiff replied, "Well, Mr. Benjamin understands it. Go back and speak to him. He has got all Sunday to think about it. Come back and tell me on Monday. I am not out here for the benefit of my health." Witness said, "Look me in the face like a man, and say it again," and plaintiff would not. Several other things passed. Another thing that plaintiff said was that Mr. Kelly had a large house and plenty of money and could afford to pay. On returning to his office he made a note of the conversation. The note produced was the one he made at the office. Plaintiff also said that since the case was made known several people had been to him and offered to pay his expenses if he lost and smashed up the defendants. He also said Mr. Polishwalla was a dummy and sold shares twice over and had done so on several occasions. Witness told plaintiff to get anybody he liked to arbitrate in the case. Plaintiff said, "No, my friend."

Mr. Drummond—Has any member of your firm a general authority from Mr. Polishwalla to buy or sell shares?"

Mr. Francis objected to the question. The person possessing such authority was the proper person to say so.

Mr. Drummond—Witness has a personal knowledge of that fact. However, I will put it in a different way. Did you have authority to buy or sell for Polishwalla?

Witness—I, personally, no.

Mr. Drummond—Had any member of your firm authority?

Witness—Yes; Mr. Kelly and in his absence Mr. Benjamin.

Cross-examined by Mr. Francis—Witness did not know when the authority was given. When he joined the firm the authority had been given. When he joined the firm new books were opened. He had not seen the old books.

His Lordship at this point asked Mr. Francis not to go quite so fast.

Mr. Francis—With all respect, my Lord, I think it would be better if your Lordship would listen to the evidence instead of taking it down in full.

His Lordship—Then it would be no good; we must have a record.

Mr. Francis—The jury are listening to the evidence. Cross-examination under such circumstances is extremely difficult, my Lord. Half the value of cross-examination will be lost if there is to be an interval between each question while the Judge is taking a note.

His Lordship—Mr. Francis, I will get it down as soon as I can.

Mr. Francis (to witness)—When did you leave Russell and Co.?

Witness—I do not remember. I think it was in 1890.

Was it not in 1889 and shortly after you had an action against Mr. Rustomjee in connection with Ropes?—Yes.

Was it not in consequence mainly of that action that you left the firm of Russell and Co.?—No, it was not.

You sued Mr. Rustomjee for not taking delivery of a certain number of Rope shares?—I did.

The defence was a conspiracy between you and Mr. Shewan and Mr. Grumble to create a fictitious price in the market for those Rope shares?—I forget the actual circumstances. It was something like that.

You honestly mean to tell the jury that you do not remember what the defence was?—It was something like that.

And you gave evidence and denied the existence of such a combination?—Yes.

Do you remember what the verdict of the jury was in that case?—They found in my favour, I think.

I will read it. "We hold that at some time after this case there was a combination to raise to a fictitious value the price of Rope shares of which the plaintiff was a partner." Is not that so?—If you say so.

Here is the report of it. You can read it yourself?—Well, it must be so.

Do you remember being flatly contradicted in the witness box in a certain statement you had sworn to by one of your employers, Mr. Tomes?—No, I do not recollect it.

Do you recollect swearing that you and Mr. Shewan had not applied to Mr. Whitehead for the joint advance or loan of some shares?—I did.

And Mr. Whitehead swore to the direct contrary?—Yes.

Do you remember the judge intimating in his summing up to the jury that they would probably prefer to accept Mr. Whitehead's version rather than yours?—I do not recollect.

I will remind you then. (Reading from the report of the Judge's summing up). "Mr. Potts and Mr. Shewan said in effect that it was not a joint demand. Mr. Whitehead understood it to be a joint demand, and he thought the jury would, taking the circumstances into consideration, be inclined to accept Mr. Whitehead's version."—If it is there, it must be right.

Was it in consequence mainly of that case and of what had occurred that you left Russell and Co.?—No, it was not.

Do you remember when you left Russell and Co.?—I cannot say exactly.

Will you kindly refer to your cash sales books—the sale of Indo-Chinas on November

17th. Did Kelly tell you that morning he had no buyers?—No.

Now you went to the Chartered Bank and to Mr. Gorham and received an order to sell 150 Indo-Chinas. Then you went back to the office. Did Kelly have any opportunity of consulting Polishwalla between the time you were telling him you had 150 shares for sale and the time he said, "Take them?"—No.

Then necessarily he must have had his instructions from Polishwalla to buy these shares before you spoke to him?—Yes.

We have been furnished with a copy of your ledger entries in Mr. Polishwalla's account. Let us see Mr. Polishwalla's account. Let us see Mr. Polishwalla's account in your ledger, please—the entry of the 6th November with reference to the purchase and sale of the shares. Will you tell me what profit Mr. Polishwalla made by buying and selling these shares?—No profit at all.

And the brokerage your firm made out of the transaction?—Was \$150.

Is Mr. Polishwalla here for the benefit of his health exclusively?—I do not know.

Or for the pleasure of paying brokerage to your firm with no profit to himself.—It may suit him occasionally.

Will you tell me the balance of Mr. Polishwalla's account for the month of November. What was the state of his account at the end of November?—It was closed in December.

It was not closed in November?—No; we render our accounts quarterly. The account was \$557,258.

I do not ask for the total, but for the balance.—There are charges against this; that is the balance.

In his favour or against him?—Against him.

On the face of the accounts he owed \$557,248?

—It was against security.

Have you any list of the securities you hold against that rather extensive balance?—I have not got one with me.

You heard Mr. Gorham assert positively in his evidence that it was Mr. Kelly and not you to whom he gave his instructions that morning for the sale of the 100 Indo-Chinas?—Yes.

What means have you for bringing to your recollection the fact that you saw him that morning?—Because he had been worrying me about the shares for several weeks and he got angry with me that morning and said, "Go and sell the shares."

In answer to further questions witness said he did not keep a memorandum book in which he kept instructions to buy or sell. He had a morning round of about 25 or 30 people. He did not know himself that Polishwalla had bought the shares until Kelly told him. All the entries in the day book were made before tiffin; there was practically little business in the afternoon.

The Court then adjourned for luncheon.

After the adjournment the cross-examination of the witness was continued. Witness said there was no difference between himself and plaintiff for two or three months prior to the 6th November with the exception of three days. He could not remember the exact date or the reason for the difference. There was nothing in the books to indicate which particular transaction was put through by him and which by Mr. Kelly.

Mr. Francis—How are you able to tell from looking at the books which transaction Kelly did?—I know it in my own mind.

You profess to state that you personally distinctly recollect which transactions Kelly did and which you did?—Yes.

Have you in preparation for this trial looked over those books and endeavoured to recollect which transactions you did and which Kelly did?—Yes, I have.

You know that Gorham stated he gave instructions to Kelly about the shares and not to you?—Yes.

And he made a memorandum of the transaction. Don't you think in the face of the memorandum that he is right and that you are mistaken—that it was Kelly who received the instructions?—No.

Witness further said that the transaction with Perry took place after tiffin.

Mr. Francis—Then how could the entries have been made before tiffin?—It was entered after tiffin.

You told me expressly—and I asked you two or three times—that the entries on that date were made before tiffin.—All the entries with the exception of the 100 shares.

You made no exception at all.—I think you will find I said that in my evidence.

His Lordship referred to his notes and said the witness stated that the entries were made before tiffin.

Witness—I meant all with the exception of that one.

Mr. Francis—It is all very well to make that statement now. Why did you break up the 100 into two sales of 75 and 25?—Because Kelly told me 25 were for a friend of Polishwalla.

Mr. Francis—And the friend of Polishwalla was converted in the evening into Polishwalla himself.

Witness, continuing, said it was extremely improbable that Perry went to him before twelve o'clock and immediately after receiving the telegram, as he would probably go to other brokers. That transaction was put through without witness having consulted Kelly or Polishwalla. Kelly bought and sold constantly for Polishwalla.

Mr. Francis—Has Polishwalla any direct or indirect interest in your concern.—No.

Not so far as you know?—I am sure he has not.

Has Polishwalla any joint interest with Kelly?—No.

You are quite sure about it?—Yes.

Do you know the relationship that existed between Polishwalla and Kelly before you joined the firm?—I cannot say.

These shares were sold at \$41 and you returned to the broker 25 cents per share?—Yes.

Who paid that brokerage?—We did out of our own pockets.

Then it was a sale at \$41 to Polishwalla? Why did you enter it in your books at \$40?—It came to the same thing. That is our custom.

Is that your invariable rule when there is a return of brokerage, not to show the rate on the face of the transaction?—I cannot say it is our invariable rule.

You might find an exception?—Yes, you might.

Did Polishwalla, so far as you know, have any intimation from any of you that these shares had been bought and sold in his name?—I had nothing to do with that transaction.

All that was left to Mr. Kelly?—Yes.

In reply to further questions witness said that the account for December showed a balance of \$9,893.27 due to Polishwalla. The balance of settlement was \$45,138.02 against him. Witness had not got the list of securities held at the end of December against the enormous amount due by Polishwalla. The securities were in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. In November there were 18 purchases by Polishwalla and 13 sales. He did not ascertain who was the friend of Polishwalla for whom the 25 shares were bought. Polishwalla was charged 50 cents brokerage on the 125 Indo-Chinas, and 25 cents was returned to him. That did not appear in the books, only the net rate, \$40, being written in. In regard to the sale of West Point shares at 18½ witness said there were many shares in the market.

Mr. Francis—Do you think you acted fairly to your client, knowing that shares could be got at 18, to sell them at 18½.—I sold them to a broker.

What had that got to do with it! That did not make a difference of half a dollar on each share. Why did you not get the shares for Mr. Perry for \$18?—Because he was a broker and I tried to get as much as I could out of him.

You tried to squeeze as much as you could out of Perry. Was it not your duty to Perry to get those shares as cheaply as you could?—No, certainly not.

You did not look upon him in the light of a client?—No.

Is it not strictly forbidden by the rules of the Stock Exchange to take any other or different brokerage from that laid down in the Stock Exchange scale?—No.

Does it not say [reading from the rules] that "if it should be proved to the satisfaction of the Standing Committee that any member has wilfully evaded or attempted to evade the scale of charges for the time being in force," there is power to expel him? In what light do you read that regulation? What possessed you to fall

back on the old scale?—If I could get anybody to give me double brokerage I should certainly get it.

Is it not pretty clear from the books that there was a pretty considerable diminution in the amount of business Mr. Gorham did through your firm after November? There were four transactions in November and six in December.—Yes.

Has not the delay in bringing on this trial arisen through your getting Mr. Drummond down from Shanghai?—Not altogether; I think you were the cause. (Laughter.)

Do you not think the entries relating to Mr. Polishwalla justified Mr. Gorham's statement that Mr. Polishwalla was little better than a dummy?—No.

Can you show me any account of monies paid to Mr. Polishwalla by your firm?—His accounts will show; I cannot show you.

Do you remember any cheques being paid by him?—Yes.

When and where?—I do not remember.

Do you understand that Mr. Kelly has a general authority to buy and sell for Polishwalla at Kelly's absolute discretion?—I believe he has.

Is it not extremely convenient sometimes in the course of business to have some one who has given you such a general authority for buying and selling?—Yes.

Haven't you occasionally made use of him in that way for your own convenience or to oblige customers?—I cannot recollect.

What a sad memory! Was it not extremely convenient over this transaction of Indo-Chinas, as it enabled your firm to make double brokerage on that day out of a transaction which profited Mr. Polishwalla nothing?—No; we did the business for Mr. Gorham's benefit.

Yes, of course. Will you kindly say how much brokerage you made that day on the sale and purchase of those 100 Indo-Chinas?—\$125.

What is the regular profit on Indo-China shares?—50 cents.

But by transferring the shares first of all to Polishwalla and then from Polishwalla, you were enabled to put another \$75 in the firm's pocket?—No, I sold the shares to Kelly, and he sold them to Polishwalla.

Then the partners buy and sell between themselves?—No.

You sold them to Kelly; that is what you said.—Certainly, that is what I said. I gave him the order.

And of course it was Mr. Kelly who put in his own pocket the \$75 extra?—No.

It went to the benefit of the firm, and Mr. Polishwalla was never asked or seen with reference to the transaction from beginning to end?—I never saw him.

But you know perfectly well that Mr. Kelly did not see him?—I do not know.

You must know perfectly well from your own statement here. You said he could not have done that, because when Perry came in to buy, Kelly was sitting at his desk and you went over to him and told him Perry wanted the shares, and he said, "Very well, give them to him."—Yes.

Can you tell me why you only charged Polishwalla on that transaction half brokerage?—We gave the other half to Mr. Perry.

Isn't it funny that it should have worked out quite square?—No; Polishwalla did not want the shares.

Are you aware that Kelly offered to show Gorham all the entries in your books connected with these transactions?—Yes.

Are the statements in Mr. Masters' letter that was read as to the offer to allow Gorham to see all his transactions in your books correct?—Yes.

Why was that offer withdrawn; when he came to look over these transactions you refused to let him see them?—He would not come in the first place, and then he and Mr. Wilkinson came. Then Mr. Master came and then of course they began to cross-examine me, and Mr. Master said, "Don't answer." He said, "What account do you want?"

Your offer was to show all the entries in the books relating to the transactions.—Certainly we did.

Very well then, why didn't you show them to him when he came?—He began cross-examining us.

You began cross-examining him first.—He commenced cross-examining me by asking when I joined the firm and so on.

Why did you refuse to allow him when you had offered to let him see your books?—We did not refuse. We said we would allow him to see any particular account.

That was not your offer. Your offer was to let him see all the transactions in your books.—Mr. Master was there.

And you were acting on his advice?—Yes.

Did Gorham happen to mention the name of any of the persons who had promised to pay his expenses in connection with this suit?—No.

Did your firm have any trouble with Mr. Wicking about transactions in shares?—Not to my knowledge.

No trouble or dispute with Mr. Thomas Howard?—Yes, there was.

You had sold him shares by numbers and when you came to deliver them you had not got those shares and you offered him shares with other numbers on?—I can explain that.

Is that what happened?—No; 150 of them were all right, but 50 were the wrong numbers.

And these numbers had been put into somebody else's contract and charged to that person?—The whole mistake arose through the Chartered Bank giving out the wrong shares and we did not change the numbers in the book.

Mr. Howard satisfied himself of this afterwards. He went and looked at the delivery book.

Do you remember a little difference with Mr. Wicking in regard to shares in Olivers Mines?—I had no difference.

But have you heard of the firm having any difference?—I think he was annoyed about the purchase of some Olivers.

At a higher rate than was actually paid?—No, I have never heard that.

Your firm rendered him an account charging him with a higher rate than you had actually paid?—No, I never knew that.

There was no correspondence—a number of letters exchanged between Mr. Wicking and your firm on the subject?—I do not recollect.

Are you prepared to say that nothing of the sort occurred or is it that your memory fails you?—He was not pleased with the purchase; I remember that.

Was there not an extensive correspondence with reference to the purchase of those Olivers?—No.

There was no correspondence at all?—Not to my knowledge. I never saw it.

Was there any little trouble with anybody of the name of Kew at Carmichael's?—No; so far as I know.

Were the numbers of the 150 Bank shares sold to Mr. Polishwalla on the 27th November specified in his contract?—I do not think they were. I am almost certain they were not.

Won't your books show?—The books will not show.

At that interview with Gorham what did you want him to say again to your face?—The statement about the business proposition.

What was there in that that led you to make such a dramatic proposal? One would think he had said something desperate.—It was not a nice thing to say.

And you refused to show Gorham your books?—Well, the lawyers had the case then.

And of course it had gone to the devil! (Laughter) Have you ever offered Gorham any money to settle the case?—No.

Has any one of your firm offered any money?—No.

Can you swear that none of your partners have done it?—Not to my knowledge.

Did you offer to pay his costs if he would refer the matter to arbitration?—No.

Do you know that many people have expressed considerable astonishment that a man in your position joined Benjamin and Kelly when you did?—No.

While you were carrying on business as a broker—while you were in Russell and Co.—were Benjamin and Kelly considered a very reputable firm to do business with?—Yes, they were.

You never heard of anything against them?—No, nothing more than brokers' talk; nothing damaging to their character—unfriendly remarks.

Has your firm been in the habit of carrying shares themselves for clients?—Yes, we have.

Then you do stand in the position of buyers and sellers?—No.

You did not carry to your clients in the same way as Polishwalla carried his 150 shares?—No.

Did you get double brokerage from your clients?—Yes, frequently.

Does it appear on the face of your books when you get double brokerage?—No.

So that nobody looking at your books could tell whether a sale was at the ordinary brokerage or double brokerage?—No, except by the debit and credit accounts.

Can you give me the names of any persons whom you have charged double brokerage before this action commenced?—Yes. Mr. Ewens, Mr. Wicking, my brother, Mr. W. H. Potts, Mr. Hardoon, Mr. Polishwalla.

Mr. Francis—We will not trouble about Mr. Polishwalla. Mr. Kelly had full powers to do what he pleased with Mr. Polishwalla.

Witness (continuing)—The Bank of China, and there may be more. Mr. Master was one, and Mr. Pollock was another. (Laughter.)

In re-examination by Mr. Drummond witness said that to get double brokerage there must always be a special agreement.

Mr. E. S. Kelly was next called and examined by Mr. Drummond. He said in September, 1896, Mr. Wicking asked him to do what he could to save the plaintiff from any loss on Bank shares. Witness mentioned transactions he had put through for the plaintiff and denied that the plaintiff gave him any instructions to sell the Indo-China shares. Mr. Potts carried out that transaction.

The case was then adjourned until 11.30 on the 12th February.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on the 10th February. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided, and there were also present:—Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Hon. E. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

DISEASED CATTLE.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, who were appointed a select committee under the provisions of Ordinance 11 of 1895 to carry out on behalf of the Board the provisions of By-laws 6 and 7 of Schedule A of Ordinance 17 of 1887, reported that eight head of cattle which were landed on Saturday morning last from Canton were found to be infected with foot-and-mouth disease and they were therefore shot and buried.

PLAGUE AT BOMBAY.

Returns were laid on the table showing the progress of bubonic plague at Bombay. From the 22nd December last to the 5th January 645 cases had occurred resulting in 542 deaths, and from the 6th to the 18th January 1,088 attacks of the disease proved fatal in 1,064 cases.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Water Authority, courteously supplies us with the following interesting information on the water supply:—

On 1st January, 1898, the water in Tytam reservoir was 3 feet 5½ in. below the overflow, representing a storage of 359,642,000 gallons, while the water in Pokfulum reservoir was 10 feet above the overflow, representing a storage of 68,257,000 gallons. The total storage was thus 427,899,000 gallons.

The following are the figures on the corresponding dates last year:—

	Level.	Storage.
Tytam	6 ft. 1 in. below	341,000,000 gallons.
Pokfulum	4 ft. 2 in. "	56,695,000 "

Total... 397,695,000 "

On 1st February, 1898, the water in Tytam reservoir was 10 feet below the overflow, representing a storage of 312,000,000 gallons, while the water in Pokfulum reservoir was 3 feet 9 inches below the overflow, representing a storage of 57,658,000 gallons. The total storage was thus 369,658,000 gallons.

The following are the figures on the corresponding dates last year:—

Level.	Storage.
Tytam ... 9ft. 7in. (below by-wash)	315,087,000 gallons
Pokfulum 8ft. 9in. (")	46,845,000 " "

Total 361,732,000 "

The total consumption for all purposes during January was 85,644,000 gallons, giving, with an estimated population of 177,450, an average daily consumption of 15.6 gallons per head.

For the corresponding period last year the total consumption was 76,996,000 gallons, or an average daily consumption of 14.7 gallons per head for the population of 169,000.

The Government Analyst reports on 2nd February—"The water is of excellent quality.

BOXING CONTEST AT THE CITY HALL.

On Monday evening, 7th Feb., a large audience assembled at the City Hall to witness a 20-round boxing contest under the Marquess of Queensberry-rules between W. S. Bailey, amateur champion of Hongkong, and T. Northcott, of the Navy. The proceedings were opened with a couple of interesting sparring exhibitions between Short and Harley and Leonard and Parker, all of the King's Own Lancaster Regiment, and after a short interval the event of the evening took place. The officials were Mr. A. Rodger, referee; Mr. E. Robinson and Mr. Hart Buck, judges; and Mr. W. Farmer, timekeeper. Mr. Charles Robinson read the rules applicable to contests for endurance and said the winner would receive a handsome silver cup. Both men looked in the pink of condition on stripping for the fray, but it was rather unfortunate that Bailey was suffering from a sprained right hand, the consequence being that his thumb was swollen. The contest was fought with the utmost good humour during the whole of the hour and a half it lasted, and it was productive of one of the best displays we have seen in the City Hall, there being not a suggestion of ruffled temper shown by either combatant; in fact it was an altogether well conducted contest. Both men did their best with a determination that did them infinite credit, and on not a single occasion did either take an undue advantage of the other. Bailey had the advantage of height and reach and the top corner, while Northcott was slightly the heavier, weighing 147 lbs., or 3 lbs. more than Bailey. In the first round Bailey put in rather too much work, but he quickly toned down the pace and some very excellent boxing was witnessed. Up to the fourteenth round Northcott's form was for the most part the superior, his speed and style excelling his opponent's, but from the fourteenth to the end Bailey inflicted the more severe punishment. Northcott was very clever with his left guard, and time after time he stopped some very powerful blows with his elbow, while his hitting, too, was always clean and straight from the shoulder—full-power blows which at times told on his opponent. The hitting of both men was good and straight with the exception of an occasional swing at the body, but there was not overmuch of that. It is probable that Bailey's injured hand prevented him from putting his best work in with his right, as some of his blows were short in delivery. As we have said, in the fourteenth round Bailey showed superiority. He was in capital condition and got a considerable advantage, but he never followed it up, doubtless because although he was in good form to take punishment he was not quite fit to persistently dole out punishment himself. He failed to press Northcott either because of his inability to do so or because he neglected to make use of the opportunities. Towards the end Northcott was certainly more played out than Bailey, but he took good care not to show that he was getting beaten. He used his head, fainted for the most time but rarely let out, and so recovered himself somewhat. Thus the game went on up to the last round, when Bailey's physical condition again gave him the advantage and he hammered away at Northcott, who was very shaky and unable to adopt offensive tactics. Northcott, however, maintained his style to the end and when at length the time gong was sounded for the last

time there was considerable applause from all parts of the house. The judges and referee conferred and decided upon a draw. Bailey was willing to continue for another five rounds, but Northcott would not go on and the men then shook hands and left the ring. It is quite possible that if Bailey had been in thoroughly sound condition he would have won. Both men are to be congratulated on the exceedingly good and pleasant display they gave.

VICTORIA GAOL.—ANNUAL REPORT.

The report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol for 1897 is published in the *Government Gazette*. The number of prisoners admitted to the gaol under sentence of the ordinary courts was 4,711, besides 48 soldiers and sailors sentenced by courts-martial. There were also 54 prisoners imprisoned for debt, and 263 in default of finding security, making a grand total of 5,076; of these 606 were old offenders. The total for 1896 was 5,582. The daily average number of prisoners confined in the gaol during the year was 462, as compared with 514 in 1896. The Superintendent attributes the decrease to abolition of the light and pass regulations and to the narrowing of the limits within which hawking is permitted in the vicinity of the markets in Victoria. There were 2,619 reports made by the prison officers against prisoners for prison offences, as compared with 3,887 in 1896, and 5,365 in 1895. Discipline had been well maintained and the Superintendent attributes the marked decrease in prison offences to greater efficiency of supervision on the part of the gaol staff and to a better appreciation of prison discipline on the part of the prisoners. The report continues:—

The new rules and regulations for the Prison came into force on the 29th of March, and the power given under them to the Superintendent to award a maximum of 7 days' solitary confinement, and a maximum of 42 days' separate confinement upon full and penal or reduced penal diet in alternate weeks, has been exercised with marked effect. There were 735 prisoners reported for refusing to labour during the year. This offence in a prison filled principally with Chinese is a difficult one to deal with. Since I have had charge of the Gaol I have only known one European who refused to labour. As a rule Europeans prefer to labour than to sit idle. Chinese prisoners on the other hand, with very few exceptions, would be content to sit in a cell from one year's end to another and do nothing. This extreme apathy tends to induce to refusing to labour and undoubtedly accounts for the obstinacy with which Chinese prisoners will persist in refusing to labour. I have found separate confinement on full and penal or reduced penal diet in alternate weeks the most efficacious punishment in obstinate cases of this extremely troublesome offence. The number of prisoners reported for having tobacco during the year, shows a further decrease. Three Indian assistant warders were dismissed during the last 9 months of the year for trafficking with prisoners, and since their dismissal the number of cases in which tobacco has been found on prisoners has materially decreased. In November and December there were four such cases, but during those months there have been several free labourers at work in the Gaol. The profit in industrial labour during the year amounted to \$2,620.08. The report from the Gaol Medical Officer shows 4 deaths from natural causes, and 2 cases of suicide during the year. The sanitary condition of the Gaol is good. A modern apparatus has been constructed for the carrying out of executions. A new fire main, with 3 hydrants, has been laid within the prison walls, and a complete new set of fire-extinguishing appliances has also been supplied. On the 22nd November a commencement was made in carrying out the improvements in the Gaol originally suggested by my predecessor together with some additions in the matter of separate cells recommended by myself. The principal of the suggested improvements within the Gaol were the increase of yard space by the demolition of D wing; the subdivision of a number of association cells into separate cells; and the extension of the female prison. D wing has already been pulled down and, with the materials removed from it, 89 association cells

are being rapidly converted into separate cells. Almost the whole of the labour is supplied by prisoners. The work is therefore being carried out at very small cost. There were formerly in the prison 248 separate cells and 115 association cells. Within the next six months when the subdivision now in progress will be completed, there will be 427 separate cells, and 26 association cells, which will afford accommodation for 453 prisoners in separate confinement. In cases of necessity 104 extra prisoners can be accommodated by putting five prisoners in each association cell making the total capacity of the prison 557. With 427 separate cells it will be possible in all ordinary times to locate every convicted criminal prisoner in a separate cell. This prison will then be in as satisfactory a condition as it seems possible to render it on the present site. The conduct of the gaol staff has been, on the whole, very good. I have already stated that the record of prison offences for the year gives evidence of increased efficiency in supervision. Great credit is due to the chief warder for this result, to which the principal warders also have contributed materially by the example they have shown of tact and discretion in dealing with prisoners, and by the steady enforcement of discipline. During the year 11 European warders have been engaged locally. They have been drawn from H. M.'s Naval and Military Forces and have given satisfaction.

HONGKONG ICE CO., LIMITED.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Ice Company, Limited, was held on Saturday, 5th February in the offices of the General Managers, Messrs Jardine Matheson and Co. Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving presided, and there were also present—Messrs W. Parlance (Manager), A. Fleet, J. H. Cox, K. M'K. Ross, H. W. Bell (Secretary), Ho Tung, Ho Fook, K. Chinoy, Lo Cheung Shin, Ho U Shang.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, I think all of you will regard the results of the past year's working of this Company as in every way satisfactory. The account in your hands shows nett profits amounting to \$62,171.39, as against \$55,044.85 for 1896, and subject to your confirmation, it is proposed to pay a final dividend of \$5½ per share, which, with the interim dividend paid in August last, gives shareholders a rather better return than in the preceding year. As stated in the report, it is also recommended to make a liberal provision for depreciation, and in view of the increased amount which it is estimated will have to be expended on buildings and new plant, and the desirability of strengthening the future position of the Company against possible competition, I hope this apportionment of profits will also be accepted. The outlay on the extensions, etc., referred to, will, it is now thought, exceed \$60,000, or a slightly larger sum than was estimated twelve months ago. General Expenses have increased about ten per cent. over those of the preceding year, mainly due to the enhanced price of coal, and whilst on this subject I may mention that we are introducing the Meldrum Furnace into the works with the view of effecting an economy in future by the burning of Hongkong small coal. I will be pleased to answer any questions with regard to the report.

There being no questions, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. J. H. Cox seconded.

Carried.

Mr. Ho Tung proposed the re-election of Mr. THOS. ARNOLD as auditor.

Mr. A. FLEET seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting. Dividend warrants will be sent out on Monday. Thank you, gentlemen, for your attendance.

At 3.50 a.m. on Saturday, 5th Feb., the firemen were called to an outbreak of fire on the ground floor of No. 46, Praya Central. A quantity of matting was burnt and the fire was extinguished with little trouble.

HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING, AND DYEING CO., LIMITED.

The first ordinary meeting of the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Co., Limited, was held on 7th Feb. at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. There were present: Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving (Chairman), Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. R. M. Gray, A. Haupt (Directors), A. M. Thomson, D. Landale, J. Orange, K. M'K. Ross, B. Byramjee, Yee Thin Tyabally, K. Kakajiwali, Ho Fook, Hoi Choi, An Lun, Ah Hee, Jas. McKie (Secretary), etc.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—As mentioned in the newspaper announcement, just read to you, this meeting is called simply to comply with the articles of association under which this Company is registered. Our business to-day, gentlemen, is therefore purely formal, and is already practically completed, but seeing that you are here it may interest you to know that we are making very satisfactory progress at every point with the initiation of our enterprise. Contracts for engines, boilers, gearing, and mill machinery have been completed on favourable terms, and although at one time it looked as though shipment of our material would be seriously delayed by the crippled production caused by the strike in the engineering trade, that dispute has at length been happily ended, and we are assured that our various machinery requirements will commence to arrive early in September, which will be quite as soon as it is anticipated the buildings will be ready to receive them. Contracts for foundations of main buildings, engines, boilers, etc., were signed on 15th November, with a guarantee for the work to be completed by 15th April, and favoured by fine weather there is every indication at present of the contractors being well ahead of time. An agreement has been entered into with Mr. Shaw, formerly manager of the Government cotton mills at Hupeh, to take the practical charge of our mills here, and we have every reason to believe that we have acquired the services of a reliable and thoroughly qualified gentleman. Mr. Shaw is expected to arrive here early in October. It does not occur to me to make any further remarks, but if any shareholder would like any further information, I shall be pleased to give it. No questions were asked, and the Chairman thanked the shareholders for their attendance.

THE NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The General Managers, Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son have received the following report from their mining manager by steamer *Airlie* :—

Mount Macdonald,
12th January, 1898.

I have the honour to report that at the Queen Main Shaft we have attained a depth of 348 feet, leaving only 2 feet to sink; when this is completed, driving for the reef will be commenced, and pushed on as speedily as possible.

Winding machinery and everything in first class order. Contractors for removing Battery making good progress. Nearly all the machinery and building material has been removed to the new site, and the work of re-erecting will be started at once.

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, that a crushing of 450 tons of quartz from the Eureka Mine has yielded half an ounce to the ton.

The General Managers further inform us that they have received the following report from their mining manager by steamer *Airlie* :—

Mount Macdonald,
12th January, 1898.

I have the honour to report that the sinking of the Eureka Main Shaft to a depth of 307 feet has been completed. String bearers we put in at 302 feet and upon these are placed two heavy sets of timber, one set being made of round timber and the other of sawn timber 8 inches

square; this forms the foundation of the chamber sets. Good progress is being made. Cutting the chamber on the west side of the shaft, where the reef will be cut at a distance of 8 or 9 feet. A smaller chamber will be cut out on the eastern side of the shaft; this will facilitate operations when sinking is resumed. All the mullock or country rock obtained from these chambers is being dumped into the stopes above the 200 feet level for filling up purposes.

Owing to the Battery being idle through want of water very few men are engaged working in the mine, four being employed driving the level north at the 150 feet level and two bringing in a small stope at back of level, and putting in the level timber, and unless rain comes very shortly work will have to be suspended entirely with the exception of the 300 feet level.

Eureka B Shaft.—This, as previously reported, is situated 500 feet north of A or Main shaft, and is being sunk 100 feet west of surface outcrop. At present it is intended to sink to a depth of 186 feet. This, allowing for variation on surface, will correspond with the 200 feet level in main shaft. In a previous report I stated that the portion of property on which this shaft is being sunk was the richest near the surface, and having proved beyond all doubt that the reef continues down we may confidently anticipate striking a good reef at the depth stated. While sinking, a chamber will also be cut to correspond with the 150 feet level main shaft.

Have had four men employed nine days; sunk 16 feet. Logged up and fixed windlass and brace. Shaft to be in three compartments, two compartments to be 3 feet by 3½ in the clear, the other 3½ by 3 feet 4 inches.

Olivers Battery.—This, as already stated, is idle for want of water, but is ready to resume crushing at any time, being in first class working order, capable of treating at least 200 tons per week.

Battery Dam.—Advantage is being taken of the exceptionally dry season to have this cleaned out. I had often been informed that previous to the late Mr. Charles Willmott's taking the management thousands of tons of sand and slurry had been run direct from the Battery into the dam and these reports are fully confirmed. Fully one half of the holding capacity of this splendid dam is filled up. At present we have three drays with sufficient men to keep them constantly going all day carting out, also two scoops, one run by four horses and the other by two, so that in a few days we will greatly increase the storage capacity of this dam and we earnestly hope to see it filled shortly.

Re the source from whence the stone recently crushed was obtained, I may state that about two-thirds was taken from the 200 feet level and the remainder from the 150 ft.

Winding plant and everything connected with the mine in first class order, our only drawback being want of water.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

The following report has been received from the mining manager by the steamer *Airlie* :—

Mount Macdonald, 10th January.

Since my last report of the 31st December the following work has been done:

Prospecting Shaft Gold Lease 37 is now down to 62 feet from the brace with the indications unchanged.

We have secured now three shifts for this shaft and should get along fast. Most of the time since my last has been spent in timbering and securing the surface. At present foul air gives us a great deal of trouble, probably caused through absence of rain.

The Great Eastern Main Shaft has reached now a depth of 111 feet from the brace. The country is unfortunately harder again, but still 7 feet in barely eight working days is good progress; the shaft makes a little water, but not sufficient to interfere with the sinking to any extent.

The Caledonian Main Shaft.—The ground still remains hard, but we hope to get softer ground at a greater depth, when we expect to make up for the delay. The shaft is down 77

feet from the brace; there is also a little water making in the shaft, but not very troublesome.

The Zulu Main Shaft has again been continued from the 70 feet level on the true underlie of the reef and is now sunk to a depth of 80 feet from the brace. Through having to do some prospecting work in the hanging wall very little sinking could be done for the last month. The indications in the wall are very good, but so far nothing new has been found. We can now get on with the sinking and cut the same formation at a much lower level. We are here unfortunately troubled with heavy water, which will make the sinking slower for a short time, but within about one month we expect to have the shaft fairly well dry. The poppet legs over the shaft have been erected, but the erection of the whin will be delayed a little as we have to log up around the poppet legs and fill in with mullock in order to form the walk for the horse.

Surface Work.—Nearly all the dead work has been completed. All our horses are working well.

SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors presented at the ninth annual meeting of shareholders, held at Shanghai on Monday, the 7th February, 1898, at 4.30 o'clock p.m. :—

In presenting their ninth annual report, the directors are pleased to be able to announce a continued and increasing prosperity in the Company's operations.

The Profit on the Working Account stands at Taels 118,751.67 as against Taels 77,695.34 last year.

The Profit and Loss Account, after deducting the amount of the interim dividend, paid in July, shows a credit balance of Taels 219,114.61, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows :—

To pay a final dividend of 6½ per cent. on the paid-up capital (making 11 per cent. for the year).....	Tls. 84,500.00
To transfer to Reserve Fund (making it up to Taels 200,000) ..	130,000.00
To carry forward to New Account	4,614.61

Wills's Estate No. 1 calls for no comment.

Chwong Hoong Estate No. 2.—All the buildings on this estate have been completed and satisfactorily let. There is still one plot of land, unoccupied next to the proposed Public Garden, but owing to the greatly enhanced cost of building the Directors have decided to defer for the present dealing with this lot. With this exception, the estate may be considered fully developed.

Little's Estate No. 4.—The buildings referred to in last report are progressing in a satisfactory manner, and it is hoped they will all be ready for occupation in the early Autumn.

Hanbury Road Estate No. 5.—This estate is now fully developed and the houses find tenants at fairly remunerative rentals.

Jin Kee Estate No. 6.—Building has commenced and several applications have already been made for leases, so that the Directors look forward to the property becoming a good source of income in the near future.

Estates Nos. 8 and 9 are properties purchased during the year which the Directors think will lend themselves to development in the way of building Chinese houses in the not far distant future. The former is situated on the Hongkew Creek, just outside the Hongkew Settlement. The latter is to the North of the Seward Road, and is known as Cadastral Lot No. 1025.

The Directors are pleased to say that the call for new capital was promptly responded to and, with few exceptions, the allotments to shareholders were taken up. The proceeds of the fractions of shares have been distributed among the shareholders interested in them. The shares not applied for have been disposed of since the accounts were closed, and there will be a further sum of Taels 2,745.60 to appear to the credit of Premium Account in the present year.

Directors.—Mr. Hearn retires by rotation, but offers himself for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. Wingrove has again audited the accounts and now offers himself for election for the current year.

H. B. HEARN,
Chairman.

THE SOY CHEE COTTON SPINNING CO., LIMITED.

The third ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at Shanghai on the 31st January, at the offices of the General Managers, Mr. G. Galles presiding. The following were also present:—Messrs. E. Karbe, F. W. Koch, Sun Chung-ying, Woo Saw-chin (Directors), P. Arnhold (General Manager), A. W. Danforth, A. Dabelstein, E. Davis, H. Lehmann, R. M. Campbell, A. Cushny, and J. Nölting, representing 1,698 shares. Dr. Zimmermann was present officially from the German Consulate.

The Chairman, in proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some time, I will, with your permission, follow the usual course and take them as read. As you will have seen, from the report, our mill commenced working on the 25th March last, with 1,500 spindles, increasing gradually to about 35,000 spindles by the end of the year. The full capacity of the mill, viz., 40,000 spindles, have been erected for some time, but we have been unable to put them all in working order owing to the scarcity of labour, which still continues. Now that the Chinese holidays are over, we trust to overcome that difficulty very soon. We are quietly and steadily organising the working of the mill into such a system as we hope will produce the best results as regards production and wages. The difficulties in our way are chiefly unskilled labour, which causes a much larger amount of waste than would be shown in a similar mill at home, and a certain amount of pilferage which is going on in spite of a very severe and strict supervision. Both these matters are being gradually overcome, and I think I am not promising too much in saying that when we next meet again we shall be able to lay before you better results. (Applause.) You will perhaps agree with me that this first period of working is not unsatisfactory, considering a new industry with unskilled people, totally unacquainted with millwork. The machinery is giving entire satisfaction and the buildings are in every respect eminently adapted for the purpose. As to the accounts, they do not require any explanation, but I may mention that our stock of cotton, yarn, and by-products has been estimated at a very safe figure, so much so that, since closing our books, we have sold our entire stock of yarn at prices showing a fair profit over and above the valuation in stocktaking. In conclusion, I believe that I am fully justified in congratulating the shareholders on their property, from which in course of time they are certain to reap very satisfactory returns. (Applause.) Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be happy to answer any questions you may wish to ask.

There were no questions, and the Chairman proposed that the report and accounts be accepted and passed.

Carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed that a dividend of Tls. 20 per share be paid.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. R. M. Campbell proposed that the directors be re-elected *en bloc*.

Mr. Danforth seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. R. M. Campbell proposed that Mr. J. Nölting be re-elected auditor for the ensuing year.

Mr. Cushny seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. E. Davis.

REPORT.

The General Manager is submitting a statement of Receipts and Expenditure to the 31st December, 1897, together with the result of the working in 1897.

The Mill began working on 25th March with 1,500 spindles, increasing to 34,944 spindles till end of the year and averaging 34,000 spindles working day and night for four months and a half.

The Profit and Loss Account attached shows a balance at credit of Tls. 47,332.17.

After a deduction of 5 per cent = Tls. 2,366.61 for the Legal Reserve Fund and 10

per cent = Tls. 4,496.66 for the General Manager (in accordance with Article 24 of the Rules of Association) there remain Tls. 40,469.00.

It is proposed to pay a dividend of 4 per cent. equal to Tls. 20.00 per share, which will absorb Tls. 40,000 and to carry forward the balance of Tls. 469 to new account.

Mr. A. Wasserfall retired on leaving for Europe, and Mr. F. W. Koch has joined the Board.

In accordance with Article 12 of the Rules of Association two members, Messrs. Galles and Karbe, retire, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Joh. Nölting, who offers himself for re-election.

PHILIPP ARNHOLD,
General Manager.

LIABILITIES.	Tls.
Capital account	1,000,000.00
Overdraft at bankers	237,660.93
Accounts payable	31,507.66
Profit and loss account	47,332.17
	Tls. 1,316,500.75

ASSETS.	Tls.
Property	143,338.01
Buildings	249,646.54
Machinery	629,613.79
Furniture	2,266.62
Yarn in stock	221,100.70
Cotton and cotton waste in stock	26,612.29
Cotton and yarn in process	22,531.84
Coal	2,45.00
Mill stores	12,023.19
Sundry debtors	1,650.98
Unexpired fire insurance premia	5,044.88
Cash in hands of compradors	171.99
	Tls. 1,316,500.76

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	Tls.
Dr.	
To interest	897.90
To balance	47,332.17
	Tls. 48,229.26

	Tls.
Cr.	
By transfer fees	36.73
By rent on Chinese house	90.85
By balance of working account	48,011.68
	Tls. 48,229.26

CRICKET.

WORLD V. SCOTLAND.

This match, played on Friday and Saturday last, ended in the defeat of the Scots by 71 runs after some low scoring due to a sticky wicket which also allowed of the four innings being played out. At the close of play on the first day, the Scots seemed to have the best of the game, and when the World had to bowl and field with a wet ball on the morning of the second day, it was expected that the other eleven would make a lot of runs rapidly. A collapse, however, took place and the Scots were out for 116, their last seven wickets yielding but 54 runs, thanks to some good trundling by Wall. The best batting display was given by Moberley, though he was closely run by Langhorne, Gillett, and Campbell. Smith and Wall adopted paying forcing tactics in the second innings, as also did Maitland and Lowson in their second attempt when they went in against a total of 251 and scored 64 for the first wicket. Egerton also batted soundly in both innings and was, like Pead, invaluable behind the stumps. For their respective sides Lowson and Campbell, and Wall and Gillett were the most successful bowlers, whilst Vallings also proved a most serviceable change on two occasions. Peile at point and Anton and Maitland in the country did smart work, the catch which disposed of Wall on Saturday afternoon being exceptionally good and only equalled by the c and b which disposed of Peile earlier in the same day. The World's fielding was, with hardly an exception, of good quality. This week the return match with the Garrison will be played. Appended are the score and analysis:—

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Lieut. Gillett, R.N., b	
Campbell	42 b Lowson
T Sercombe Smith, l b w.,	
b Wood	15 c Egerton, b Lowson
Surgeon Pead, R.N., b	st. Egerton, b Mac-
Lowson	10 kenzie

Captain Dyson, A.P.D., c			
Egerton, b Mackenzie	3	c Egerton, b Lowson	9
Capt. Langhorne, R.A.,		c Mackenzie, b Craw-	
l b w., b Crawford	24	ford	46
Lieut. Lethbridge, K.O.R.,			
c and b Campbell	0	c Anderson, b Lowson	0
Rev. G. R. Vallings, b			
Campbell	16	c Maitland, b Lowson	9
A. G. Ward, c Crawford,			
b Campbell	4	not out	2
H. S. Moberley, H.K.R.,			
not out	39	l b w., b Crawford	34
L. Wall, R.N., l b w., b			
Campbell	15	c Maitland, b Lowson	28
F. Lammert, run out	15	l b w., b Lowson	7
Extras	3	Extras	2

Total 186 Total 181

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B. Wickets.
Lowson	20	7	47	—	1
Wood	3	—	21	—	1
Mackenzie	8	2	26	—	1
Anderson	1	—	8	2	—
Campbell	14	4	45	—	5
Crawford	5	—	27	—	1
Stewart	2	—	9	—	—

Second Innings.

Lowson	18	2	54	—	7
Mackenzie	6	—	33	—	1
Wood	3	—	15	—	—
Peile	4	1	13	—	—
Maitland	3	—	13	—	—
Crawford	4	—	34	—	2
Anderson	1	—	12	1	—
Stewart	2	—	6	—	—

SCOTLAND.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Lieut. Campbell, H.K.R.,	
b Vallings	45 c and b S. Smith
A. S. Anton, b T. S. Smith	0 b Vallings
Lieut. Egerton, R.N., st.	
Pead, b Wall	17 l b w., b Gillett
F. Maitland, c Langhorne,	
b Wall	7 b Gillett
J. A. Lowson, c Sub, b	
Wall	9 c Pead, b Vallings
Peile, R.N., c and b Wall	9 c Lammert, b Gillett
M. Stewart, b Gillett	0 not out
A. Anderson, c Moberley,	
b Gillett	1 run out
D. Wood, c Dyson, b Wall	3 b Gillett
A. Mackenzie, c S. Smith,	
b Lammert	24 c and b S. Smith
L. Crawford, not out	0 b S. Smith
Extras	1 Extras

Total 116 Total 180

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B. Wickets.
Sercombe Smith	5	—	19	—	1
Gillett	18	4	39	—	2
Lammert	4.2	—	19	—	1
Wall	19	10	28	—	5
Vallings	2	—	10	—	1
Second Innings.					
Wall	8	1	40	—	—
Gillett	15.1	6	53	—	4
Lammert	7	—	34	—	—
Vallings	6	1	20	—	2
S. Smith	10	1	30	—	3

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

BEST SCORE CUP FOR JANUARY.

There were twenty-one entries for this monthly competition and the following are the returns handed in:—

Mr. G. Millward	93	15	78
Mr. E. F. Mackay	100	20	80
Mr. G. Stewart	87	3	84
Mr. A. J. McClure	103	16	87
Mr. C. W. May	92	4	88
Mr. E. A. Ram	97	9	88
Mr. P. de C. Morris	102	13	89
Mr. J. Hastings	105	12	93

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR FEBRUARY.

A fair number of competitors entered for the above cup, and we are glad to note the scratch men were in the van on this occasion. The following are the returns:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Capt. Urmston, R.M.L.I.	84	0	84
Mr. C. W. May	93	4	89
Mr. E. A. Ram	98	9	89
Mr. G. T. Veitch	109	20	89

22 entries.

POOL.			
Mr. G. Stewart...	87	3	84
Capt. Urmston...	84	0	84
Dr. Bishop, R.N.	103	16	87
Mr. C. W. May...	93	4	89
Mr. E. L. Hunter...	107	18	89
Mr. W. Saunders...	106	11	95

18 entries.

* Divide the stakes.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB

SEVENTH CLUB RACE.—6TH FEBRUARY.

Starters, first class:—

Active	Mr. H. E. Pollock
Meteor	Mr. T. W. Lammert
Maid Marian	Mr. J. Hastings
Phoebe	Mr. F. H. May
Erica	Mr. A. Denison
Sybil	Officers, R.E.
Chanticleer	Mr. C. A. Tomes

Second class:—

Dart	Dr. Clark
Payne	Officers, R.E.
Ladybird	Mr. C. D. Wilkinson

The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round a markboat off Lyeemun Pass, Kowloon Rock, Meyer's east buoy, and Channel Rocks, leaving all to port; 12 miles.

The second class boats started at 1.20 and the first class at 1.30. There was a good strong east wind blowing at the start and all the boats except Maid Marian, Active, and Sybil were reefed, Chanticleer double reefed.

Dart and Maid Marian went to the front in their respective classes and kept there so long as the strong breeze held. On getting to Quarry Bay the wind started getting lighter and reefs were shaken out, Ladybird going to the front in the second class and getting round the Lyeemun mark with a considerable lead. Chanticleer carried away her main boom gooseneck and had to retire when off Quarry Bay. Meteor got into first place in A class for a short time, but in shaking out her reef Maid Marian again went into the leading position. At the markboat the boats in the rear had closed up on the leaders, Meteor getting round second to Ladybird with Payne and Maid Marian about a clear length behind her; then Dart and Erica with Payne and Active in close attendance, Sybil bringing up the rear. In the run down to Kowloon Rock, Erica and Dart passed all but Ladybird. A reach brought the boats to Meyer's buoy when Meteor had got into third place. In the second beat up to Channel Rocks the wind was not so strong and the boats could comfortably carry all sail, but they were going through the water pretty fast. Erica and Meteor soon passed Ladybird, and Phoebe, making a long tack into Kowloon Bay, arrived at the Rocks a good third. Maid Marian went rather too far towards Quarry Bay and over-reached the mark.

An uneventful run brought the boats to the finish and the line was crossed as below:—

A CLASS.					
	Finish.	Marks.	Total	Marks	
			to date.		
	H.	M.	S.		
Erica	4	23	12	10	48
Meteor	4	23	20	4	13
Phoebe	4	24	49	1	3
Active	4	31	42	—	4
Maid Marian	4	33	25	—	32
Sybil	4	35	23	—	—
Chanticleer	—	—	—	—	6
B CLASS.					
Ladybird	4	26	10	10	58
Dart	4	30	24	4	8
Payne	4	35	23	1	37

We are informed that the Hamburg-American Line, for which Messrs. Carlowitz & Co. are agents for China, started a monthly service on the 25th of January last. The steamers will call at Penang, Singapore, Hongkong, and Shanghai. The *Andalusia*, *Astoria*, *Arabia*, *Ambria*, *Alesia*, *Assyria* are to run on this line, each ship having a total carrying capacity of over 8,000 tons, and all of them being almost new vessels. The employment of still larger steamers will follow as soon as it appears advisable. This Company possesses a fleet of 69 steamers with a total tonnage of 286,950 tons.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

BETTER TO BE SURE THAN SORRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In the admirable lecture delivered recently by Captain Anderson in our City Hall on the aims and objects of the Navy League the suggestion was made that the Government might, as an experiment, give an order to our local Dock Company for one or two torpedo boats. This idea struck many as well-timed and practically wise—an opinion which further reflection and discussion has only strengthened and confirmed; but as no one has, so far, drawn the attention of the Authorities to the matter through the medium of the Public Press, may I be allowed to do so.

Should any serious exigency suddenly arise, the experience gained by the Dock Company in the proposed attempt and their ability, if demonstrated, to turn out such, or other, engines of defence might prove of momentous importance to us all. Now unquestionably is the time for such an experiment; we must not wait until "the bolt has fallen from the blue," when it might be too late.—I am, yours, &c.,

PATRIOT.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1898.

GERMANS V. ENGLISHMEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—With reference to your leader of the 4th inst. it is to be presumed that what Mr. Brennan means by the Germans being men of a "different training" is simply a "superior" one, as they are apparently free from narrow prejudices which handicap your Englishman in the struggle for existence. Without doubt, pride, prejudice, and narrow selfishness have had a great deal to do with the ousting of the Englishman by his German rival. If, in the past, Englishmen had acted on the principle of "live and let live" by employing only Englishmen in their houses, treating them as men and brothers, and giving them every inducement to go into business on their own account, there would, I opine, be many more Englishmen and English homes in China to-day and Englishmen doing the work which the Germans now monopolise. At the root of it all is greed, selfishness, and narrow-minded prejudice, for the most part, which is being paid for dearly.

As to the Englishman's objection to being called a "salesman," "what's in a name?" I should like to know what is the difference between a man who buys and sells a picul, and makes a few cents profit and he who corners a market and realizes millions. The former is probably the lesser rogue, as he is the less harmful of the two. "Merchant" or "Salesman" seems to me for the most part a dispute "twixt tweedledum and tweedledee." No doubt there are men of culture amongst the merchant classes; but generally speaking, they "buy and sell," and they "sell and buy," and this, owing to competition, is the sole end and aim of their existence—"salesmen" and "merchants" both great and small.—I Remain, &c.,

ONLY DRAW THE LINE.

Hongkong, 8th February, 1898.

OUR NEW PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—The consensus of opinion seems clearly in favour of retaining the present site for our new post office, and also of removing the Clock Tower to some spot where it will be less in the way but much more conspicuous and, therefore, of greater practical utility. We are glad to see that our worthy chief of Public Works advocates this view, as also that the designs should be entrusted to local architects. But why not, as Mr. Chater suggests, do the same with the new Law Courts? Of course we want a very high style of architectural beauty, but do not the Banks and Club buildings sufficiently testify that our local talent may be trusted to rise to the occasion? Surely it must be of great advantage that these courts be designed by men well acquainted with the nature and qualities of the stone and other building

materials found in our colony, and more especially of those structural features rendered necessary by our semi-tropical climate. Doubtless the London architects would send us out plans of imposing appearance, but, probably, shewing no conception, on their part, of the absolute necessity, for example, of colonnades and verandahs! Also, architects on the spot would be able to refer questions as to points of detail to, and receive valuable suggestions from, our local authorities, who must be supposed to know best what is required. Again what a waste of time would be involved in correspondence with London and in the almost inevitable returning of the plans for modification. Why not at once give our local architects the opportunity of sending in competitive designs, and so, at least, of showing us what they can do?—Yours truly,

SPECTATOR.

Hongkong, 7th February, 1897.

THE DEFENCE OF THE COLONY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—With reference to the leading article in your issue of to-day, perhaps I may be permitted to mention that the Committee of this branch of the Navy League has already strenuously insisted upon the necessity for this colony being made so secure in the matter of both men and forts as to be capable of defending itself without receiving any assistance whatever from the Fleet.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

HENRY E. POLLOCK,

Hon. Secretary,

Navy League, Hongkong Branch.

Hongkong, 7th February, 1897.

GREAT FIRE AT MANILA.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

MANILA, 6th February.

A terrible fire broke out early this morning in the new Rosario Street, Manila. Both sides of the street were ablaze for five hours. All the Chinese warehouses in the locality were gutted. The full extent of the damage is not yet known, but it is believed that most of the property is insured.

MANILA, 9th February.

In the great fire of the 6th instant the loss covered by insurance amounted to \$889,000. This loss is divided amongst twenty offices.

SERIOUS FIRE IN SHANGHAI HARBOUR.

Shanghai, 26th January.

The wooden tug *Kongnam*, owned by a Chinese firm in Hongkew, caught fire and was almost totally destroyed early yesterday morning.

The *Kongnam* was moored alongside another tug, the *Tai-on*, off Boyds' yard, and at about 2.30 a.m. she was discovered to be on fire in the bunkers. The master, Capt. Davey, was on shore at the time and the native crew cast her adrift and abandoned her, all hands proceeding on board the *Tai-on*. She drifted up stream with the tide and took the ground on Pootung Point, where she fortunately remained fast. The River Police and a party from H.M.S. *Pique* immediately went alongside and she was moored with two anchors, one being carried well up on the shore to keep her stern from swinging out. The *Pique's* men brought a force pump alongside and rendered invaluable assistance in subduing the flames. The Municipal fire float was also moored alongside of the burning vessel and it was not long before the flames showed signs of abating. The whole fore part of the vessel as far aft as the engine room was completely gutted, all the fittings, etc., being totally destroyed. When the flood tide made yesterday afternoon the weight of the water which had been pumped into her and the coal which had been washed over to the port side held her down, as she lay at an angle of about forty degrees, until the water obtained access to the hold through the burnt deck and at high water

the port side of the deck was awash. The amount of the damage and the insurance, if any, are not yet known.

Shanghai, 27th January.

The *Kongnam* was successfully pumped out and floated yesterday morning. She was towed down to the Shanghai Engine Works, where the necessary repairs will be effected.—*N. C. Daily News*

NAVAL EXPEDITION IN NORTH BORNEO.

A REBEL FORT CAPTURED.

[Special to "Singapore Free Press."]

Labuan, 30th January.

H.M.S. *Swift* and H.M.S. *Plover* returned to Labuan last night.

These gunboats had been engaged on an expedition against Talleh up the Membakut River. The rebel stronghold was captured, eight rebels being killed and many wounded.

There were no casualties on our side.

Talleh, the leader of the insurgents, succeeded in making his escape.

A later telegram received to-day announces that his head has been brought in.

There is a general belief that Talleh is Mat Salleh's lieutenant.

Commenting on the above the *Free Press* says:—Recent precedent to the contrary has been put aside and two British gunboats have been allowed to assist the North Borneo Company in dealing with one of the rebel leaders. It is unfortunately not Mat Salleh, but it is at any rate the next best man that has been brought to book. The scene was the Membakut river, and a naval contingent of officers and blue jackets, from the *Swift* and *Plover*, in the shape of a boat expedition, was guided up to Talleh's stockaded fort, which was rushed and captured with loss to the natives. Although Talleh got clear away during the attack yet it appears that, possibly by some of the Company's Dyaks, he was followed up, killed, and his head brought in for identification. There is a fine orthodox Borneo twang about this bit of "head-hunting." Talleh will now cease from troubling, and it is to be hoped that, encouraged by the co-operation of vessels of the Navy, the North Borneo Government may at last succeed in laying hands on that arch disturber of the peace, Mat Salleh.

THE MURDER OF THE GERMAN MISSIONARIES.

IMPERIAL EDICT.

We (*N. C. Daily News*) publish below a translation of the Chinese Emperor's Edict, issued on the 1st instant, concerning the murder of the two German priests in Shantung province, which occurred in the district of Chüyé in the early part of November last:—

In obedience to our commands the Board of Civil Appointments has presented to us its report concerning the penalties which ought to be laid upon the officials concerned in the recent Chüyé affair. The said report states that Li Ping-heng, Governor of Shantung, has placed himself in a most reprehensible position, first, by not being prepared to prevent the murder of the two priests at Chüyé, and secondly, for having failed to report the outrage to the Throne until the Tsungli Yamén was informed [from outside sources] of it and telegraphed instructions to the said Governor to investigate the affair. Such conduct deserves punishment. Li Ping-heng is, therefore, hereby degraded two steps in rank and ordered to be transferred to a lower post, a penalty which shall not be permitted to be commuted or set off against good conduct marks in the said Governor's official record. As for the said Governor's subordinate officers concerned, namely, Hsi Liang, recently transferred from his post of Taotai of the Yen Yi-Tsao-Chi Intendancy, Shantung; Wan Pên-hua, Brigadier-General of the Tsaochou Military Circuit; and Chao Chêng-chao, prefect of Tsaochoufu (where the murders happened), they are hereby cashiered of their several ranks but retained at their posts. Further the privilege to disseminate the religions of the various countries of the West is accorded by Treaty, and when we take into consideration that these missionaries

have come from afar—from 10,000 li distance—it is but simple justice that the officials and people of China should sympathise with their difficulties and grant what aid they can. Judge then the pity of it, when we are suddenly informed that robbers had murdered two missionaries within the jurisdiction of the magistrate of Chüyéhsian. We, therefore, hereby command that, in addition to the punishment demanded by law to be awarded to the perpetrators of the said outrage, churches in three different places and dwelling-houses in seven places be built by us as a token of the Government's desire to atone for the catastrophe which has befallen strangers from afar. In conclusion, we hereby call upon Chang Ju-mei, the present Governor of Shantung, to exhort his subordinates to give full protection to these missionaries, and to give warning that if in the future there should again occur further outrages by desperadoes and bandits, the local authorities concerned shall be held responsible for the same. Obey!

THE MANCHURIAN GOLD MINES.

Despatches received from North Manchuria state that the Tartar-General of Kirin province has issued permits to a native syndicate for the developing of three or four newly-discovered gold deposits at Yenchiang, Kirin, and that the Tartar-General of Heilungchiang province has also granted permission to the Muho Gold Mining Co., to erect new plant in a rich gold mine lately discovered some distance from Muho, the name of which, however, has not been given out.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE SEOUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

Work on the Seoul-Chemulpo railway will be pushed in the spring so that it can be completed by autumn. Your readers will remember that last spring I mentioned the fact of the railway being owned by Japanese who, not being able to get a contract from Corea, got Mr. Morse to do it for them. This statement was indignantly denied at the time by some who knew the actual state of affairs. Recent items in the Japanese papers leave, however, no further room for denial. I am, however, prepared to go further now and say that a large part of the stock is owned by the Japanese Government or by officials of the Government.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

THE PEKING AND TIENSIN RAILWAY.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

It is now about eight months since I had the privilege of passing over the Imperial Chinese Railway from Peking to Tientsin. The landscape was then beginning to put on its summer adornment, and vegetation had begun to take on a deep shading of green, but much of the country through which the road passed had a very desert-like appearance. Now that winter is on and the ground is bare of all vegetation, and the brown trunks of the trees are denuded of all foliage, the outlook from the car windows is doubly desolate and unattractive. And within the cars are cheerless, cold, comfortless. No fire, no cushions, not even an attempt at the appearance of warmth or comfort. The same utter disregard of the comfort and appreciation of the traveller which has prevailed on the Tientsin-Tangshan road from the first. It may be said that the Chinese do not care for these things, which is true as shown by this fact, that when this latter road was first opened the seats were provided with cushions. Occasionally one of these was missed, stolen by some one who had not been sufficiently watched, and the rest soon became so abominably filthy that they could not be endured. So it was found useless to provide anything but boards for those who preferred dirt to comfort and cleanliness. But it was thought that some regard would be had to the feelings and habits and desires of their foreign friends, and that one car, or a part of a car, would be fitted with some little appreciation of their preferences ere long on those parts of the road over which they are continually passing, and especially between this and Peking, but there is no difference, save

that the rate of fare is higher than on the older line. The Imperial Mail Service runs a specially fitted car, upholstered and warmed, and by paying an extra two-thirds fare or thereabouts, one may travel in a good degree of comfort between this and the capital—thanks to the Postal, not the Railway, Administration. The track has now been extended beyond Fengtai to within a few miles of the gates of Peking and lately a tramway track has been laid quite up to the gate—thanks to the determination of our German friends, who in consequence of a lady on a belated train being prevented thereby from getting into the city before the gates were closed, demanded that a track be laid and facilities provided by which access to the city could always be had before the closing of the gates, and travellers not be subject to the discomforts and dangers of Chinese inns, with no bedding or suitable food, when trains are belated. No carriages are as yet on this line and I did not learn when they are to be put on—not till spring, possibly. It is hoped that before long the locomotive will take the cars to the end of this line, where the terminus should have been at the first.

The first survey of this Tientsin-Peking line carried it along the great road to Tung-chou, on the highest ground and through the best of the country between this and Peking, locating the station near the West-South gate of the city. But the boatmen raised a great outcry against this innovation, which they thought would injure their carrying business, and for the same reason—supposed injury to the business of the city—they were supported by the people of the city. Hence the present line of the road. Both these classes now recognise that they made a great mistake, and that the railway would have brought to them distinct advantages, and they are therefore exceedingly vexed at their stupidity. It appears, equally stupid on the part of the Government to have changed the original plan and taken the road through a tract of low-lying country where there are no large towns and scarcely any chance of freight, and where it will require the expenditure of thousands of taels annually to protect the road bed against the overflow of the Hun (muddy) river.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 3rd February.

The reply I have to give to the writer of the letter signed W.Y.Z. in your issue of Saturday last is as follows: In the *Echo Macaense* No. 61, published on the 12th September last, is an article headed "A letter from Shanghai," in which the following passage occurs:—"V. (meaning no doubt V. B. de Souza) took from the firm where he was employed the sum of Tls. 10,000, on five separate occasions, Tls. 2,000 each time, the first theft having taken place in July last and the last in April of this year. According to the confession of the same all this money has been spent in gambling in the Manila lottery." The writer of the letter which appeared on Saturday wants now to show the public how generous and innocent de Souza was in the case, he having taken all the responsibility upon himself in order to save the shroff from committing suicide! Who on earth could believe in such fantastical generosity? Perhaps de Souza may have said something about the shroff also being concerned in the case, but any one of common sense will understand what his object was and that he simply wished to screen himself. Anyhow de Souza is in gaol to undergo his punishment, he having been adjudged guilty.

The Chinese New Year passed over very quietly, nothing extraordinary having occurred. The cula-cula tables supplied the principal excitement.

The days for the celebration of the fourth centenary of the great Vasco de Gama have been fixed and are the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th of May. The programme, subject to alteration, is as follows:—Early in the morning of the 17th the Monte, San Francisco, and Barrisforts will fire salutes of a hundred guns each, the church bells ringing in the intervals; the regimental band will parade the streets playing the "Hymn of the great Vasco de Gama," a thanksgiving service, will be held at the Cathedral and masses said in all the other

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churches in memory of the great hero; there will be a civil procession from the Leal Senado to Camoen's Grotto, where a garland of bronze will be fixed on the bust of the great poet; and in the evening general illuminations and fireworks. On the following days there will be bicycle races and other sports at the Avenida Vasco de Gama (now known as the Campo de Victoria), the laying of the foundation stones of the monuments to the three heroes Vasco de Gama, Governor Amaral, and Colonel Mesquita, a ball at Government House, the inauguration of a public library to be named after Vasco de Gama, theatrical entertainments at the Club Uniao, a dinner given by the Santa de Misericordia to the poor of the colony, Chinese lantern procession and Chinese theatrical entertainments, flower show and curio exhibition, and a battle of flowers at the Avenida de Vasco de Gama. The committee is going to appeal to the Portuguese in the various foreign colonies and settlements of the Far East for subscriptions in aid of the celebrations and also to ask them to organise local celebrations in the places where they reside. Eight sub-committees have been formed to take charge of the different departments and sections of the celebration.

The monument to Vasco de Gama is to be erected at Campo Victoria and the joint monument to Amaral and Mesquita on the little hill at Boa Vista near the British cemetery.

The Green Island Cement Co. has begun to use the electric light at its factory and three or four powerful arc lamps have been fixed at the wharf and near the workshops.

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Macao is expected to arrive about the middle of the month.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

According to the Chinese almanac spring commenced on the 4th instant. It is customary on the day previous for the Canton officers to proceed to the place named Tung-ka-cheung to receive the spring, which is regarded as the happiest season. On the 3rd instant therefore the Prefect of Kwangchow and the Magistrates of Namhoi and Punu districts proceeded with a large guard to Tung-ka-cheung to perform the usual ceremonies. When they arrived, the said officers acted as farmers, one of them taking charge of a paper cow, one holding a paper plough, and one performing the act of sowing seed. When the ceremonies were finished, the large assemblage tried to stone the paper cow to fragments. The people are of opinion that if the paper cow is stoned to fragments, the year will be prosperous.

Liu Yung-fu, the Black Flag General, has received an order from Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to enlist a few thousand soldiers to be despatched to Chinkiang. The wages of the soldiers are six dollars a month. Over a thousand have been enlisted. The flag of the regiment is black, with seven white stars, just like that of the god of Pak-Tai, and is to be held as a victorious flag.

On the 29th ultimo a junk named *Wing Tai* burned paper to chin-chin joss. A spark from the paper reached the touch-hole of a loaded gun on board, which went off. There were two men standing by, one of whom was severely injured and the other was thrown into the water and instantly killed.

As has already been repeatedly reported, famine visited Kiuchow after the flood and typhoon of last year and many letters have been received by the charitable institutions in Canton asking for aid. Rice and money have frequently been sent there lately. A few days ago the gunboat *Nammo* was despatched to the suffering district with a heavy load of rice sent by the Government.

Over one hundred robbers made an attack on the village named Tsung-mok-loong, in Namhoi district, on Chinese New Year's eve. When they entered the village, they first tied up the lunkongs on duty and then commenced their plundering. Fourteen houses were ransacked. Gongs and drums were beaten to give the alarm, but no one dared to come forward. The robbers cooked some chow-chow in one of the houses. After they had satisfied themselves with sham-su and chow-chow, they carried away all the valuable spoils and got off scot free with no pursuers.

The alteration in the day for the departure of the homeward mails created a long interval between the last mail and the mail this week. During most of that period interest has been chiefly centred in the Supreme Court, where a most important case connected with transactions in shares has been in progress. On the 6th inst. a big fire broke out in Manila and caused damage amounting to \$889,000. An interesting boxing contest took place at the City Hall on the night of the 7th inst., the combatants being Bailey and Northcott. Admiral Buller leaves Hongkong for England in the *Ganges* on the 19th inst.

Vice-Admiral Seymour left for the North on 8th February in H.M.S. *Alacrity*.

On 7th February Vice-Admiral Seymour, accompanied by Commodore Holland, inspected the Kowloon Docks and the torpedo depot.

Captain J. R. Jellicoe, R.N., Lieut. F. A. Powlett, R.N., and Paymaster Eldred, R.N., arrived by the P. & O. steamer *Coromandel* on 4th February.

It is notified in the *Government Gazette* that His Excellency the officer administering the Government has been pleased to appoint Mr. Cyril H. C. Platt to be his private secretary.

His Excellency the officer administering the Government has been pleased to appoint Captain Francis Richard Loveband, of the West India Regiment, to be His Excellency's Aide-de-Camp.

On Tuesday morning, 8th Feb., the execution of Lam Chu Wan, who committed a double murder in Shelley Street and then tried to kill himself, took place privately in Victoria Gaol. The usual inquest was afterwards held.

At the Police Court on 5th Feb., two men were fined \$10 and one man \$20 for being in possession of unjust weights. A shopkeeper who illegally stored some tins of kerosine was fined \$25. Inspector Duncan prosecuted in all the cases.

His Excellency the Acting Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. Marcus Warre Slade to be a Lieutenant in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps vice Lieutenant W. K. Wylie, deceased, with effect from the 3rd February, 1898.

The *Government Gazette* contains a notification that His Excellency the acting Governor has been pleased to recognise, provisionally and pending the arrival of the Queen's exequator, Kisaburo Uyeno, as in charge of the Imperial Japanese Consulate in this colony.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Wing San Tak Tong	\$100
Wong Lai Yün Tong	100
T. T. Lee	5

It is notified in the *Government Gazette* that Mr. Wong Wan On has been appointed a public vaccinator under the provisions of section 4, sub-section 1, of Ordinance 5 of 1890. It is also notified that Europeans can be vaccinated free of charge at the Government Civil Hospital daily between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

At the Police Court on 3rd Feb. the hearing was resumed of the charge against three privates in the Hongkong Regiment of drugging and robbing another private who had obtained his discharge from the Regiment. Evidence was given by Mr. Frank Browne, Government analyst, as to the nature of datura alba, which the prisoners are alleged to have put into the prosecutor's food. Further evidence was given and the prisoners were then committed for trial at the Sessions.

Some Chinamen are curious mortals. Inspector Duncan, armed with special authority under the Weights and Measures Act, has lately been energetically hunting up shopmen with defective weights and scales. The shopmen know him well and as soon as they catch sight of him many hide their scales and also their weights, even although they are perfectly correct. Of course it is an offence to play hide and seek in this manner and the Inspector is obliged to take such silly shopmen to the police station. Two were charged at the Police Court on 4th February and they were each fined \$25. There was nothing wrong with their scales or weights.

Five men from Aberdeen were on 3rd Feb. sworn in as constables in the Hongkong Police Force. They arrived by the steamer *Glenavon*.

An impudent theft was committed at the Hongkong Hotel early on Saturday morning, 5th Feb. A man went to the roof of the hotel, stole a quantity of hose piping and a hydrant box, put the property under his coat, and then descended in the hotel lift. Fortunately he was stopped by an Indian watchman and locked up. The prisoner was sent to gaol for six weeks with hard labour.

A telegram from Raub, dated 31st January, states:—"The rough cleaning up of the battery yielded 2,300 ounces of amalgam, the estimated quantity of stone crushed being 1,050 tons." This gives about 805 ounces of gold or a little over 15 dwts to the ton. At the previous clean-up, on the 3rd January, 2,026 tons of ore yielded 1,623 oz. 1 dwt. 0 grs. smelted gold, being an average of 16 dwts. per ton of ore crushed.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram from the mines giving the result of the January clean-up:—"The mill ran 28 days crushing 2,400 tons of headings yielding 300 ozs of smelted gold. Thirty tons of concentrates were ground in the Berdan pans yielding 36 ozs. of gold. The cyanide plant ran 26 days treating 720 tons of tailings yielding 264 ozs. billion of an average assay value of 15/6 per ounce."

At the Magistracy on 1st Feb. a coolie in the employ of Mr. C. A. Tomes was charged with stealing six Spanish dollars, the property of his master. The dollars were wrapped up in a parcel and the prisoner was told to take it and a letter to Dr. Bell, Government Civil Hospital. The coolie returned to Mr. Tomes minus the parcel and with the letter opened. He explained that he had dropped the parcel near the market and was unable to find it and he therefore opened the letter to see how much money was in the parcel so that he could reimburse his employer. He told the Magistrate that a man pushed against him in the street and then he found that the parcel was missing. The explanations were palpable falsehoods and the prisoner was sent to gaol for three months with hard labour.

At a meeting of the Odd Volumes Society held at the City Hall on 9th February an interesting lecture was delivered by Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., upon Seeley's "Expansion of England." Colonel Elsdale, R.E., occupied the chair. The lecturer gave an able review of Professor Seeley's notable work, dwelt on the lessons to be derived from it, and commended to his hearers the perusal of the book itself. At the close the Chairman, in tendering the thanks of the audience to Mr. Francis, said he believed there was a period of storm and stress in store for the Empire, that sooner or later we would have to fight a coalition formed against us, and he urged that the educational system of the country, primary, secondary, and advanced, should be conducted on more patriotic lines, attention being given to the lessons of history bearing upon Imperial defence.

The right of working the coal mines at Uling and Lutac, in the province of Cebu, was let by public tender at Manila on the 22nd January. Mr. N. Macleod was the purchaser and the only tenderer. The Manila papers contain the abridged prospectus of "The Philippine Mining and Development Company, Limited," which has been formed to acquire coal mining concessions in the Philippine Islands and promote other industries. The Company is established under the Hongkong laws, and the capital is \$1,600,000 divided into 160,000 shares of \$10 each, of which 100,000 are to be issued now and the balance as may be hereafter decided. The promoters take 40,000 shares in consideration of the property to be transferred by them to the Company. The directors are Mr. Neil Macleod, of Manila, Mr. Enrique Castillo, of Manila, and Mr. Hart Buck, of Hongkong, with power to increase the number to five. Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son are the Hongkong Agents and Messrs. Macleod and Co., of Manila, Iloilo, and Cebu the General Agents. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation is the Company's bankers, and Messrs. Deacon and Hastings the solicitors.

The Hon. Commander R. Murray Rumsey, Harbour Master, charged his No. 1 boy at the Police Court on 4th Feb. with absconding himself without leave. On two or three occasions the boy, who was in receipt of \$10 a month, has temporarily left his employer's house without leave, but on each occasion he was forgiven when he returned. There was, however, a limit to this leniency and when Commander Rumsey found that his boy was missing again the other morning he decided to take different measures. He informed the police and when the boy again put in an appearance at the house he was charged with the offence. The prosecutor said he wished the defendant to be punished just sufficiently to let him know that he must not disobey the law. The Magistrate said the boy was very silly. He was in receipt of good wages and had had fair warning, which, however, had been of no avail. He would be fined \$5.

We have received from Messrs. W. Robinson & Co. a copy of Mr. A. G. Ward's waltz "Pearl of the East." It has been played by the Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment at one or two dances in Hongkong, the first occasion being at Government House, and those who heard and danced to it must have been delighted with the beautiful airs. There is any amount of spirit and crispness displayed, also great beauty and swing in some of the melodies. It is a perfect waltz to dance to. We cannot congratulate the publishers on the title page; the waltz is deserving of something more elegant. We also have to acknowledge receipt of a little song, "Fair Isle of the Seas of Cathay," written and composed by Mr. N. Ruchwaldy as a souvenir of Hongkong. It is dedicated by special permission to Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G. The music of the song is pretty, but the words are not so successful. The cover is elaborately designed by the composer with small sketches of Chinese life introduced.

On 4th Feb. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse conducted an inquiry into the fire which broke out in a Chinese male ward of the Lunatic Asylum on the 26th January. While the ward attendant (Chinese) was away getting his afternoon meal a patient who was confined in a padded cell went to an adjoining room and lighted a wisp he had taken from some matting at a kerosine stove, the consequence being that some bedding and matting were burnt. Dr. Atkinson said the patient was the man who some time ago attempted to murder his mother-in-law in Causeway Bay, and he had given considerable trouble since he had known he was to be sent to Canton. He had threatened to kill himself. He was not put in the padded cell because of his violence, but because that was the only accommodation there was for him. The ward boy had been told not to go away from the ward unless he left someone else in charge and for committing a breach of this regulation he was fined \$2 some time ago. The Magistrate asked if it would be better to heat the place with hot water pipes. Dr. Atkinson agreed that it would be better and said he would make the suggestion to the proper authorities. His Worship, in releasing the premises, said that fortunately the fire did not turn out to be of very much consequence, but if it had not been speedily controlled lives might have been lost. He cautioned the ward boy to be most careful in future to leave someone in charge during his absence.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98 lbs.	1896-97 lbs.
Canton and Macao	5,828,745	6,176,740
Shanghai and Hankow ...	14,058,839	17,809,185
Foochow	12,309,891	12,518,868
Amoy	685,651	589,478
	32,883,126	37,094,280

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98 lbs.	1896-97 lbs.
Shanghai	18,823,511	18,244,124
Amoy	14,522,772	17,825,564
Foochow	7,516,903	11,405,219
	4,863,186	47,474,905

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1897-98 lbs.	1896-97 lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow ...	19,462,293	22,949,123

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98 lbs.	1896-97 lbs.
Yokohama	26,221,168	27,365,005
Kobe	15,602,283	11,777,490
	41,823,456	42,142,495

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 7th February.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—London telegrams of the 2nd February quote Gold Kilin 10/6, market firm. Raw Silk.—Demand has been sufficiently good to enable holders to establish an advance of 1/2s. 20 per picul on such favourite chops as Mountain 4 and Gold Kilin. Stocks of these and similar chops are very small and not likely to be replenished this season, and in consequence holders are very firm, and are asking higher prices at the close. Settlements aggregate 1,090 bales (about) for the interval since 20th January, and are composed of 450 Tsatlees, 100 Taysams, 350 Filatures, 150 Yellow Silk, and 50 Tussah at the quotations given below. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 20th January to 4th February: 348 bales White, 103 picul Yellow, and 442 picul Wild Silk. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is as follows: to America 4,064 bales, to Continent 2,990 bales, to England 21 bales, and to Japan 29 bales. Waste Silk.—A small business is doing in Tussah Waste 1 and 2 at 11/25 and 21/4, Shaoushing and Woozie Filature Blaze at 1/2s. 21 and 16.

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent; Exchange 2/7 1/2; Freight 1/2s. 7.45 per bale:

	Ts. Stg.
Tsatlees—Buffalo 3	530 11 10
" " 4	510 11 5
" " Mountain 4	505 11 4
" " 5	495 11 1 1/2
" " Silver Double Elephant	485 10 11
" " Gold Kilin	487 10 11 1/2
Taysam—Gr. Kahing MM	435 9 9
" 8 x 12 Moss Double Butterfly 1	435 9 9
" " 2	412 9 3
Yellow Silk—Mienchew	300 a 32 1/2 8 10 a 7 3
" " Meeyang	330 7 6 1/2
" " Foojung	290 a 310 6 7 1/2 a 7 0 1/2
Yellow Silk—Wongchow	280 6 5 1/2
" " Szechong	220 5 1 1/2
Hand Filatures—Woo San Dong X Reel, 1	645 14 3
" " 1, 2 and 3	avg. price 615 13 8
" " Gold Cook, X Reel, 1	570 12 7 1/2
" " and 2	avg. price 560 12 5
" " Mars chop, X Reel 1	ordy reel 327 7 5
Wild Silk—Tussah Filature 8 Cocoons	210 a 212 1/2 4 11 a 4 11 1/2
" " Three Joss Chop	210 a 212 1/2 4 11 a 4 11 1/2
" " Tussah Raw 1	210 a 212 1/2 4 11 a 4 11 1/2

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1897-98 bales.	1896-97 bales.
Shanghai	9,169	4,013
Canton	9,471	2,479
Yokohama	26,988	13,892
	45,628	20,374

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1897-98 bales.	1896-97 bales.
Shanghai	43,707	36,126
Canton	18,611	17,573
Yokohama	17,578	12,944
	79,896	66,873

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 11th February.—Prices are slightly firmer. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$46.25 to \$46.50. Sales, 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 11th February.—The market continues active and prices are still advancing. Quotations are:—
Shekloong, No. 1, White...\$7.35 to 7.40 per picul.
do. " 2, White... 6.95 to 7.00 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... 4.80 to 4.85 "
do. " 2, Brown... 4.72 to 4.77 "
Swatow, No. 1, White... 7.25 to 7.30 "
do. " 2, White... 6.90 to 6.94 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 4.75 to 4.79 "
do. " 2, Brown... 4.60 to 4.65 "
Foochow Sugar Candy

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Feb. 2	—	717½	711½	722½	730	770
Feb. 3	—	717½	711½	722½	730	770
Feb. 4	—	717½	711½	722½	730	770
Feb. 5	—	717½	711½	722½	730	770
Feb. 6	—	717½	711½	722½	730	770
Feb. 7	—	715	710	720	730	770
Feb. 8	—	713½	708½	720	730	770
Feb. 9	—	713½	708½	720	730	770
Feb. 10	—	713½	708½	720	730	770
Feb. 11	—	713½	708½	720	730	770

RICE.

HONGKONG, 11th February.—A good demand has been experienced and prices have rapidly risen. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.52 to 2.55
Round, good quality.....	2.80 to 2.85
Long	2.95 to 3.00
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.50 to 2.57
Garden, No. 1 ..	3.20 to 3.25
White	3.85 to 3.90
Fine Cargo	3.98 to 4.05

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 11th February.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—30 bales No. 6 at \$75, 1,465 bales No. 10 at \$76.50, to \$94, 1,415 bales No. 12 at \$82 to \$91, 290 bales No. 16 at \$90 to \$98, 1,605 bales No. 20 at \$96 to \$104.50. **Grey Shirtings.**—600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.57½, 1,000 pieces 10 lbs. Mandarin at \$3.70, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Shoemaker at \$3.60, 750 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Triangle at \$3.75, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 8 Shiells at \$3.75, 1,480 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.97½, 1,500 pieces Blue 5 men at \$3.75, 800 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Lion at \$1.95, 3,300 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Joss B. at \$2.95, 1,500 pieces 8½ lbs. Double Fish at \$2.85, 700 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Lion at \$2.80, 1,800 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dogs at \$3, 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Wheels at \$2.92½. **White Shirtings.**—1,500 pieces No. 4,000 2 Fish at \$3.45, 500 pieces Gold Joss Bat \$3.45, 2,000 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.90, 500 pieces at \$3.12½, 500 pieces No. 3 at \$3.52½, 250 pieces No. 5 at \$3.85, 150 pieces E. K. at \$5.95, 150 pieces D. K. at \$4.95, 250 pieces O at \$4.30. **T-Cloths.**—2,100 pieces 6 lbs. Joss Butterfly at \$1.74, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Blue Dragon B. B. at \$2.32½, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Silver Dragon at \$2.20, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Crown at \$2.65, 500 pieces 30 in. Blue Dragon at \$2.85, 1,700 pieces 8 lbs. gold Dragon at \$2.70. **Drills.**—150 pieces 15 lbs. Large Eagle at \$4.90. **Victoria Lawns.**—2,000 pieces Red Lion at \$0.90, 1,000 pieces Pink Lion \$0.65. **Turkey Reds.**—350 pieces 8 lbs. clock at \$4.27½. **Spanish Stripes.**—30 pieces 3 Birds at \$0.63½, 48 pieces B. B. B. at \$0.61½, 120 pieces Green Dragon at \$0.61, 60 pieces assorted B. B. B. at \$0.61½, 240 pieces Red Dragon assorted at \$0.59. **Long Ells.**—100 pieces 10 lbs. Rabbit and stock at \$8.10.

METALS.—Tin.—200 boxes tin plates at \$6. **Iron.**—840 piculs Swedish soft Bars at \$5.75, 2,320 piculs square, round, and flat bars at \$4.12½, 500 piculs flat bars at \$4.17½.

COTTON YARN.		per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	72.00	to 105.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	108.00	to 115.00
„ 22 to 24.....	110.00	to 115.00
„ 28 to 32.....	121.00	to 126.00
„ 38 to 42.....	137.00	to 138.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.		per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.....	1.70	to 1.80
7lbs.....	2.00	to 2.05
8½ lbs.....	2.45	to 3.75
9 to 10 lbs.....	3.35	to 4.10
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....	2.35	to 2.55
58 to 60 „.....	2.70	to 3.40
64 to 66 „.....	3.50	to 4.35
Fine	4.30	to 7.10
Book-folds.....	3.75	to 5.80
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ..	0.65	to 1.70
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.....	1.50	to 1.70
7lbs. (32 „) „.....	1.85	to 2.10
6lbs. (32 „) „ Mexs.....	1.65	to 1.80
7lbs. (32 „) „.....	2.05	to 2.75
8 to 8½ oz. (36 in.).....	2.30	to 3.15
Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ to 14lbs.....	3.70	to 5.10

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—11 to 7lbs.....	1.50	to 4.00
Brocades—Dyed	3.90	to 5.0
Damasks.....	0.12	to 0.16

Chintzes—Assorted	3.08	to 0.14
Velvets—Black, 22 in.....	0.20	to 0.30
Velveteens—18 in.....	0.16	to 0.18

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.45 to 0.90
WOOLLEN

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.55	to 1.35
German.....	1.15	to 1.50
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths.....	1.15	to 5.25

Long Ells—Scarlet 6.50 | to 9.00 || Assorted | 6.60 | to 9.10 |

Camlets—Assorted	12.00	to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches.....	11.00	to 20.00

Assorted 7.00 | to 8.50 |

Blankets—8 to 12lbs.....	5.50	to 12.00
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METALS

Iron—Nail Rod	4.05	to 4.10
Square, Flat Round Bar ..	4.10	to 4.15

Swedish Bar	5.80	to —
Small Round Rod	4.75	to —

Hoop	5.50	to —
Wire 13/25	9.00	to —

Old Wire Rope	1.50	to 3.00
Lead, L. B. and Ho'e Chop ..	8.30	to —

Australian	8.30	to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz, 14/28 oz.....	29.00	to —

Vivian's, 14/20 oz.....	29.00	to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz.....	29.00	to —

Composition Nails	—	to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	29.50	to —

Tiles	29.00	to —
Tin	—	to —

Tin-Plates	5.90	to —
Steel ½ to ½	5.75	to —

SUNDRIES	—	to —
Quicksilver	126.00	to —

Window Glass	4.10	to —
Kerosene Oil	1.86	to 1.87

SHANGHAI 6th February.—(From Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—Owing to a change in the departures of the home mails from here our report embraces a longer period than usual, during which a considerable business has been done. Without waiting for definite advices from the Northern Ports operators have been steadily annexing all available supplies and, although numerous sales are reported, they probably do not amount to a moiety of the total transactions. The dealers fully realise now the growing scarcity of the staple makes and are rapidly clearing the market in anticipation of orders for the re-opening of the season. Holders for the most part appear willing to sell, although they cannot replace their sales within a reasonable time. The miscellaneous character of the business does not point to any particular or special demand, it is just a general idea that the goods will be wanted and will not be obtainable at any lower prices in the near future. Slightly higher rates are asked to compensate for the fall in Exchange, and seem to be willingly paid, which makes the market look decidedly firm. Business at our dependencies has scarcely got back into the regular groove as yet, and even here the influence of the settling day is still being felt. Favourable advices have come in from Ningpo, Hankow and the other River Ports, but not so good from Chefoo. The weather appears to have been unusually mild up North, as here, and may lead to an early opening of the Pichu. The atmosphere remains in a state of unrest and there is good deal of anxiety as to what will be the outcome of the present unsettled state of affairs. The Auctions this week went with much more spirit and higher prices were paid for Cotton goods. Woollens are still very disappointing and it seems impossible to continue the trade with the present disparity between the cost and rates ruling here. The Yarn Market has been strong and active, prices showing an advance of nearly two taels during the interval. Local Spinnings are going off well now and higher prices are asked. Cotton is strong at Tls. 16.00 per picul.

METALS, 7th February.—(From Messrs. Alex. Belfield & Co.'s Report).—The market opened with considerable demand for Metals of all kinds at fair prices, with the results that the heavy contracts quoted below have already been closed. In addition it is reported that other business has been done, but we are unable to verify these reports and in some instances, notably a transaction in Sohier's at 125s. (market rate 128s.), are inclined to doubt their accuracy. The list we quote is better than has been done for some

months past, and if the boom proves, as we expect, lasting, there is every prospect of recouping the ill-effects of the past year. The following are the contracts done:—500 tons "Goffins" Nailrods 127/6, c.i.f., 675 tons New Cobble Wire 107/ c.i.f., 1,000 cases Bamboo Steel 190/ c.i.f., 100 tons Swedish Bar Iron 210/ c.i.f., 400 tons Steel Plate Cuttings 9½ c.i.f., 100 tons do. 92 c.i.f., 75 tons Old Boiler Tubes 96/ c.i.f., 600 tons Old Hamburg Horse-shoes 87/ c.i.f., 50 tons Old Ship Plates at Tls. 1.75, 50 tons Old Fish Plates at Tls. 1.85, 50 tons Old Black Sheet Iron at Tls. 1.87.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 11th February.—Business has continued quiet during the week under review and rates in most cases show a slight decline.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in the market at 183 per cent. prem. without finding buyers and small sales have been effected as low as 186 per cent. prem. for March 31st, at which latter rate there is still a small enquiry. Nationals have changed hands at \$18½ and \$19, closing steady.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Have all ruled weak, with little or no business. China Traders at \$69 sellers. Unions with small sales and sellers at \$225 and \$222½. Cantons at \$150 sellers, and Straits and the Northern Insurances all offering at quotations. Reported losses is the cause of the all round weakness.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have weakened and have been on offer all the week at \$372½ without business. Chinas have also declined to \$107½ with sales. The recent large fire in Manila is responsible for the fall in these two stocks.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have continued to rule quiet and out of favour, the rate having fallen further to \$26½ with small sales, closing with buyers. Indos have been much quieter with but few sales at \$55 and \$55½, but close steady to strong at the former rate. Douglases have been done at \$57½ and \$58 and it is probable a few more could be placed at \$58. China Manilas and China Mutuals remain unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been in fair demand and a fair number of transactions have been negotiated at \$168½ and \$169 cash, \$170 for 28th inst., and at \$173 and \$174 for April 30th; at time of closing a limited number of shares are wanted at \$169. Luzons continue out of favour with probable sellers at \$42, whilst a sale is reported at \$45 for June 30th.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled rather quieter with sales at \$7.45 to \$6.50, closing quiet. Charbonnages have strengthened considerably and have been in demand at \$135 and \$140 cash without finding sellers, but a sale at \$145 for April 30th is reported; the market closes with buyers at quotation and at better than equivalent rates forward. New Balmorals have improved to \$1.65 for Preferences and \$1.40 for Ordinaries, after sales at \$1.60, \$1.70, \$1.75, and \$1.80 for the former and at \$1.30 and \$1.35 of the latter. Jelebus have changed hands in a small way at quotations. Raubs have ruled quiet at \$21½ with but little or no business; the result of the January rough clean up gives about 805 oz. gold from 2,300 oz. of amalgam. Olivers have found buyers and close steady at quotation, and Great Easterns are quiet \$3.15.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue in favour and have ruled very firm with small sales at 237 per cent. prem., at which rate further shares could probably be placed. The Company seems full of work, and the forthcoming report is confidently expected to be good, although not as good as the previous one. On time shares are enquired for at about equivalent cash rates. Kowloon Wharves have improved a little and have been enquired for at from \$58 to \$59, closing strong at \$59 after a small business. Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been in fair demand and have changed hands at \$72, \$72½, and \$73, closing steady at the last rate. Hotels continue quiet and without sales. West Points and Kowloon Lands are neglected at quotations, but

Humphreys Estates after sales at \$9 and \$9.25 are in demand at the former rate.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands continue quiet and neglected without sales and with sellers at quotations. Watsons have changed hands at \$11.90 and \$12, Fenwicks at \$30, \$30½, and \$30½, and Ropes at \$174. Cottons remain quiet with sellers of Ewos at \$100, and sales of other Mills at quotations in Shanghai.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	183 ½ prem=
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£3 10s	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£5.5s., buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$ 8½, sales
Founders Shares...	£1	\$18½
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	£1	\$5
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$3.75
China Sugar	\$100	\$109, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 100, sellers
Hongkong	\$20	\$17, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 111
Lacu/Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 110
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 520, ex div.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 90
Dairy Farm Co.	\$6	\$3½
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$30½, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$33½, sellers
Do. New Issue	\$2½	\$17½
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$120
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$10, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$105
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$53, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$107, ex div. sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$59, sales & buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$174, sal. & buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$237 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$150, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$107½, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$59, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$372½, sellers
North-China	£25	Tls. 118, sales
Straits	\$20	\$14, sellers
Union	\$25	\$222½, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$140, sales
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$73, sales
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9.25, sellers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$17½
West Point Building	\$40	\$20½
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$12½, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	\$140, buyers
Great E. & C'donian	\$5	\$6, sellers
Do. Do.	\$2½	\$3.15
Jebeu	\$5	\$2
New Balmoral	\$1	\$1.40, sales & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.65, sales & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$19, sellers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$7½, sellers
Punjom	\$5	\$6½, sales & sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.90
Rauhs	13s. 10d.	\$21½, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$10	\$17½, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$76, sellers
China Mutual Ord...	£10	£7 10s. sales & b.
Do. Preference...	£10	£5 10s. sales & b.
Do. Do.	£5	£2 15s. sales & b.
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$59, sales
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$26½, sales & buyers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$55
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$2	\$2, sales
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2, sellers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Wareh'se Co.	\$37½	\$41½
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12, sales

J. V. Y. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 7th January.—(From Messrs. J. Bisset & Co.'s Report)—The volume of business done has been moderate, with but little change in rates. Marine Insurance.—North-China Insurance shares changed hands at Tls. 200, and are offering. Straits shares were placed at \$15. Fire Insurance.—Chinas have been placed at \$108 and \$110 cash, and \$110.50 for delivery on the 28th current. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares were placed at Tls. 41.50 cash, Tls. 41 for the 28th current, and Tls. 41.50/42.00 for the 31st March. China Mutual S. N. Ordinary shares, with \$5 paid up, were sold at Tls. 28, and are wanted. Sugar Shares.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 36 cash, and Tls. 37/38 for the 31st March. Cash shares are

wanted. China Sugar Refining shares were placed at \$170 cash, after sales were made at \$172.50 and \$173.50 for the 31st March. Docks. Wharves & Godowns.—Shares in Boyd & Co. have been placed at Tls. 155, and S. C. Farnham & Co. shares at Tls. 160. Shanghai Dock ordinary shares were sold at Tls. 70 cash and Tls. 82½ for June, and are wanted. Founders' shares have been placed at Tls. 230. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 122 cash, Tls. 124 for the 31st March, and Tls. 124½ for 30th April. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited.—Shares have been sold at Tls. 93 cum dividend. Industrial.—International Cotton Mill shares were sold at Tls. 112 cash, Tls. 114.50 for March, and Tls. 117 for April; Laou-kung-mow shares at Tls. 110/111 cash, and 115 for June, and Soy-chee shares at Tls. 540 cum, and 520 ex dividend. Shanghai Ice shares changed hands at Tls. 100. Shanghai Feather Cleaning shares are offering at par. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were sold at Tls. 18½. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 93 cash, 95 for March 9½ for April, and 96 for May. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 400. A sale of a small lot of Hall & Holtz shares is reported at \$39, and business has since been done at \$38½. Loans.—Shanghai Municipal 5 per cent Debentures were sold at Tls. 95, Shanghai Land Investment 6 per cent Debentures at Tls. 102, S. & H. Wharf 6 per cent Debentures at Tls. 101, and Shanghai-Sumatra 8 per cent Debentures at \$102, plus the accrued interest in all cases.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 11th February.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/10½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.36
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.39½

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	1.90½
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	45½
Credits, 60 days' sight	46½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	140½
Bank, on demand	141

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	140½
Bank, on demand	141

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	74½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	7½ % pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	11 % pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	1 % pm.
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SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate

10.55

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

55.00

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Shanghai (str.), Pingsuey (str.), Diomed (str.), Borneo (str.), Ceylon (str.), Ganges (str.).

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—Belgie (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Lyderhorn (str.), Ghasee (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Darmstadt (str.), Sachsen (str.).

FOR BALTIMORE.—Standard.

FOR PORTLAND.—Braemar (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIA.—Australian (str.), Omi Maru (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Kamakura Maru (str.).

FOR SEATTLE.—Kagoshima Maru (str.).

FOR VICTORIA.—Victoria (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

February—

ARRIVALS.

2, Patroclus, British str., from Liverpool.
2, Propontis, British str., from Moji.
2, Tientsin, British str., from Shanghai.
2, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
2, Amoy, German str., from Amoy.
2, Glenavon, British str., from London.
2, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.
2, Holstein, German str., from Saigon.
2, Ingraban, German str., from Saigon.

3, Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., from London.
3, J. Diedericksen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
3, Taileo, German str., from Saigon.
3, Chihli, British str., from Moji.
3, Erato, German str., from Hamburg.
3, Kaohidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'otzu.
3, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
3, Hupeh, British str., from Java.
3, Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Swatow.
3, Quarta, German str., from Bangkok.
3, Chingwo, British str., from Moji.
3, Hermes, Norw. str., from Hongay.
4, Tamarind, Norw. str., from Bangkok.
4, Ceylon, British str., from Yokohama.
4, Hector, British str., from Shanghai.
4, Cosmopolit, German str., from Iloilo.
4, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
4, Progress, German str., from Haiphong.
4, Senta, German str., from Kobe.
4, Taicheng, Goerman str., from Arce Bay.
4, Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
4, Coromandel, British str., from Bombay.
4, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.
5, Victoria, British str., from Tacoma.
5, Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
5, Choyasang, British str., from Canton.
5, Loksang, British str., from Mororan.
5, Japan, British str., from London.
5, Airie, British str., from Sydney.
5, China, Hawaiian str., from San Francisco.
5, Clara, German str., from Hoihow.
5, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
5, Konoura Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
5, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
5, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
6, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
6, Taksang, British str., from Swatow.
6, R. R. Thomas, Amr. ship, from New York.
7, Tetartos, German str., from Moji.
7, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
7, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
7, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
7, China, German str., from Saigon.
7, Hinsang, British str., from Samarang.
7, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
7, Hsiping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
7, Germania, German str., from Hongay.
7, Hertha, German str., from Hamburg.
8, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
8, Orange Prince, Brit. str., from Langkat.
8, Bengo, Portuguese g-bt., from Macao.
9, C. H. Kian, British str., from Singapore.
9, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
9, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
9, Cheangchow, British str., from Rangoon.
9, Hangchow, British str., from Swatow.
9, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
9, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
10, Maria Vallerie, Aust. str., from Sp'ora.
10, Sachsen, German str., from Bremen.
10, Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
10, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
10, Fansang, British str., from Java.
10, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
10, Peiyang, German str., from Canton.
10, Yarra, French str., from Shanghai.
10, Obi, British str., from Singapore.
10, Oopack, British str., from Liverpool.
10, Longbank, British str., from Singapore.
11, Whampoa, British str., from Saigon.
11, Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
11, Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., from Saigon.
11, Hsinchi, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

February—

DEPARTURES.

2, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
2, Choyasang, British str., for Canton.
3, Benvenue, British str., for Saigon.
3, S. Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.
3, Catherine Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.
3, Crefeld, German str., for Kiaochow.
3, Inaba Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
3, Patroclus, British str., for Shanghai.
3, Sullberg, German str., for Saigon.
3, Fred. P. Litchfield, Amr. ship, for Callao.
4, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
4, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.
4, Tientsin, British str., for Saigon.
4, Amoy, German str., for Yokohama.
4, Chihli, British str., for Saigon.
4, Donar, German str., for Saigon.
4, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
4, Glenavon, British str., for Shanghai.
4, Keelung Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
4, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
4, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
4, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
4, G. C. Tobey, Amr. ship, for New York.

5, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 5, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 5, Taicheong, German str., for Amoy.
 5, Ceylon, British str., for London.
 5, Coromandel, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 5, Haimun, British str., for Amoy.
 5, Hector, British str., for London.
 5, Hydaspes, British str., for Bombay.
 5, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 6, Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., for Yokohama.
 3, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 6, Erato, German str., for Yokohama.
 6, Esang, British str., for Amoy.
 6, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 6, Progress, German str., for Saigon.
 6, Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
 6, Senta, German str., for Hamburg.
 6, Sachem, Amr. ship, for Singapore.
 6, Serrano, Amr. ship, for Rajang.
 7, Airlie, British str., for Shanghai.
 7, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
 7, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 7, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 7, Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 7, Tailee, German str., for Saigon.
 7, Lyceum, German str., for Canton.
 7, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
 8, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 8, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 8, Taksang, British str., for Saigon.
 8, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 8, Australian, British str., for Port Darwin.
 8, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
 8, Alacrity, British des. ves., for Shanghai.
 8, Ask, Danish str., for Haiphong.
 8, P. C. C. Klao, Brit. str., for Bangkok.
 8, Chingwo, British str., for Singapore.
 9, Hupeh, British str., for Saigon.
 9, Hsiping, Chinese str., for Kobe.
 9, Loksang, British str., for Saigon.
 9, Suisang, British str., for Colombo.
 9, Tamarind, Norw. str., for Iloilo.
 9, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 10, Holstein, German str., for Yokohama.
 10, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., for Saigon.
 10, Propontis, British str., for Kobe.
 10, Ingraban, German str., for Saigon.
 10, Hertha, German str., for Yokohama.
 10, Orange Prince, British str., for Sumatra.
 10, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
 10, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
 11, Hohenzollern, British str., for Japan.
 11, Cheang Hock Kian, Brit. str., for Amoy.
 11, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 11, Hinsang, British str., for Saigon.
 11, Machew, British str., for Bangkok.
 11, Germania, German str., for Kebao.
 11, Lyceum, German str., for Shanghai.
 11, Sachsen, German str., for Shanghai.
 11, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
 11, Whampoa, British str., for Kobe.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Laos*, for Hongkong from Shanghai, Messrs. Benjamin, Couvreur, Hagasaki, Miss J. A. Pease, Mrs. Bates, Messrs. A. S. Cole and Frugive; from Kobe, Rev. Le Lacheux; for Saigon from Shanghai, Miss A. Joubert; for Singapore from Shanghai, Mr. Walker; from Yokohama, Messrs. Beckford and Wright; for Colombo from Shanghai, Mr. L. Bircard; for Bombay, Mr. J. Brown; for Port Said, Messrs. Komaroff and A. Awenhammer; for Port Said from Kobe, Messrs. G. Zoloff, Proshowrickoff, and Jacob Nyelsneff; for Marseilles from Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss Henningsen and infant, Messrs. J. Luciani and W. Lehmann, Mrs. Rey and 2 children, Miss Rey, Messrs. Rey, G. G. Butland, Gandolfi, Bastiani, J. G. Russell, O. Gude, and B. A. Hurst; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Galy and infant, Mr. Van den Heyden, Mr. and Mrs. Klingen and 3 children, Mr. Chohmandeby, Mr. and Mrs. A. Levy and 2 children, Messrs. Forshow, Miguel, and Fontanille; from Kobe, Mr. L. Humbeck.
 Per *Natal*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Markin Buch; from Singapore, Mr. W. L. Davy, Messrs. Phio Piann Siat and R. C. Cook; from Saigon, Mr. P. D. Prouhandy, Miss Marie Dan, Messrs. W. Elmanoff and Dent and son; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Mr. Hubert, Mrs. Mollignier, Messrs. Delche Valerie and Van der Stegen, Consul and Mrs. Haas, Messrs. H. A. Gonyune and Alhpoon; from Port Said, Mr. Torcest; from Singapore, Mr.

John Grant; for Port Said from Nagasaki, Mr. Andrea; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. Hugo Wassermann; from Singapore, Mr. J. Shibuya, Mrs. Ohsasa; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Sisters Gabe, Beaumont, Adèle Divesh, Fidel Ponilly, Miss Origou, Mr. and Mrs. Guibert; from Colombo, Messrs. G. Pereira and B. Bloa; from Singapore, Mr. Masanao Koike, Mr. and Mrs. Bergmann, Mr. Kahtoh; from Saigon, Sister Victorin.

Per *Choysang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. and Miss Hernandez, Mrs. L. Haesloop, Misses J. Balmer, M. Balmer, and Falconer.

Per *Australian*, from Kobe, &c., Mrs. and Misses Una, Messrs. S. and C. Ackman.

Per *Glenavon*, from London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Knight and baby, Messrs. Noble, Ritchie, Black, Cameron, and Garrad.

Per *Ceylon*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Mr. H. Mooljee; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lincoln and child, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Burkill, Miss A. Jameson, and Mrs. H. A. Ritchie and infant; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mr. C. W. Dreckmeier.

Per *Coromandel*, for Hongkong from London, Vice-Admiral Sir E. Seymour, Messrs. T. Potter, F. C. Alton, W. G. Littlejohns, H. W. E. Manisty, Rogers, Capt. Jellicoe, Lieut. Powlett, Messrs. Eldred, J. Rickard, Richardson, Rickard, Sibley, Wyatt, Goldsmith, King, H. M. Man, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy and 2 children, Miss Kennedy; from Brindisi, Mr. T. C. Cochrane; from Bombay, Messrs. L. and R. Garrett; from Calcutta, Mr. A. Troyte; from Colombo, Mr. A. F. Kunsden; from Singapore, Mr. Bremner; for Shanghai from London, Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood and infant, Miss Wickham, Messrs. Row, Gillies, Fairclough, Taylor, and J. Reid; from Brindisi, Messrs. Bonmais and A. Cohn; for Yokohama from London, Mr. H. S. Smith; from Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Luxmore, Mr. H. Botel; from Ismailia, Messrs. H. E. Hinds and J. D. Hage.

Per *Japan*, from London, for Shanghai, Messrs. W. J. Clarke, R. Carr, R. C. Moule, and J. W. Nicholson, Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield, and 2 infants, and Mr. and Mrs. Pattison, and child; for Kobe, Mrs. Wilson; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Healing, and Miss Thomas; for Hongkong, from Singapore, 570 Chinese.

Per *Airlie*, from Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Fox, Surgeon-Major Burke, Messrs. G. L. Blaski, Jas. Don, Jno. Don, F. Gray, A. Locke, and Mrs. Ambrosio and infant.

Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Messrs. Edgar, Bucknall, C. H. Best, L. Suidter, and Mrs. A. McIntyre and two children.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. E. Aepli, Rev. Louis Byrde, Messrs. W. T. Biffinie, P. H. Beaulieu, D. W. Crawford, W. Cruikshank, W. Cox, J. M. Doherty, Capt. and Mrs. Drake Brockman, Mr. W. V. Drummond, Mr. and Mrs. H. Gribble, Baron de Gunzberg, Mrs. C. F. Grandon, Mrs. R. Howard, Messrs. R. McGregor, W. G. Pirie, Mrs. Plummer, Mr. H. W. Sampson and infant, Mrs. R. W. Thompson, Messrs. E. Tomlin and G. Wentlemer.

Per *Lyceum*, from Shanghai, Capt. Schönmann, Mr. Stempel, and Mrs. Arthur.

Per *Hertha*, from Hamburg, Mr. Vogt Moulisch, Capt. Amonsens, and Capt. Melsom.

Per *Formosa*, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs. Wray, McAuston, Kolf, and Thompson.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Messrs. Harris, Keenan, Pequan, Montonvent, Logan, Anderson and Gamble.

Per *Bingo Maru*, from Singapore, Messrs. C. Rowcroft, McCarthy, McGarvie and G. Matheson.

Per *Sachsen*, from Bremen, &c. for Hongkong, Messrs. Kinghorn, Ingenohl, Sachse, Dr. Gerlach, Director Post, Messrs. Schleicher, Leyburn, von Schlieben, Christie, Struckmeyer, Vollbrecht, Brunner, May, Zehnpenning, Rogge and family, Miss von Humbert, General and Mrs. von Gottberg, Mr. and Mrs. Assan, Mr. and Mrs. von Oertzen, and Mr. Macgowan and family; for Yokohama, Messrs. Lund, Einaigl, Geslien, Fischer, Müller, Voges, Junker, Jacob, Krauss, and Lehmann; for Nagasaki, Consul Müllerbeck and family, Mr. and Mrs. Hershheim; for Shanghai, Messrs. London, Rhode, Wedemeyer, Scheibler, Runkel, Fuhrmeister, Kragh, Thorsoe, Bowman, Sanderson, Steger, Nicolaisen, Biehl, Faust, Rev. Moffet, Bishop Evington, Mr. and Mrs. Lamond, Mr. Buch-

heister and family, Miss Ebell, Mrs. Taylor and children, Mr. Hunnex and family, Misses Williamson, Hurn, Bradfield, Culverwell, Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Adler, Mr. and Mrs. Richter, Miss Bergmann, Mr. Plambeck and family.

DEPARTED.

Per *Preussen*, from Hongkong for Bremen, Lieut. von Waldo, and Mr. F. Jurs; for Southampton, Mrs. C. W. Richards and children, Misses Annie and Connie Wood, and Mr. Ah Que; for Genoa, H.E. Sir Wm. Robinson, Capt. and Mrs. Philipps, Mrs. Claussen and baby, Miss Sealy, and Mr. C. W. Richards; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. T. Hawke, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Givens; for Singapore, Messrs. A. Walker and F. W. J. H. Tenbergen, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Denyes, Messrs. E. Veitch, F. C. Quien, J. B. Carpenter, N. H. Hardy, and Lamar Lyndon; from Shanghai for London, Mr. James Rust, Miss Johnston, Mrs. Buncie, Capt. Warren, and Mr. Thompson; for Bremen, Capt. Lieut. Schanmann; for Antwerp, Messrs. O. N. Syvertsen and P. Kundum; for Genoa, Mr. J. Bridges, Mr. and Mrs. J. Cornehl, Capt. K. Gosewisch, and Mr. J. Bender; for Singapore, Mr. M. Luyket, Mrs. Horney, Messrs. Mooney, F. Bornemann, and J. Bessel; from Yokohama for Bremen, Mr. E. Petersen; from Nagasaki for Antwerp, Mr. G. A. Hellesilch; from Japan for Bremen, Messrs. M. Matsuzaki and T. Normura; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Nettleship and children, and Lieut. Ch. St. Inglis; for Southampton, Mrs. W. R. Bennett; for Port Said, Mr. C. Matzkewicz, Mr. and Mrs. M. Sürth and child, Misses Hoar, Mr. J. Bunting and son, and Dr. M. Otsuki; for Deli, Mr. J. C. M. v. Bensbergen; for Singapore, Mr. Araki Yetsu.

Per *Natal*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Paymaster L. H. Davy, Rev. Charrasat, Messrs. T. W. Rayner, F. McKenzie, and C. da Silva; for Kobe, Messrs. S. E. Levy and K. Gamars; for Yokohama, Messrs. J. Ping, J. Richard, T. W. Daly, and E. Levy.

Per *Laos*, from Hongkong for Saigon, Mr. Gran Hoa Chee; for Singapore, Rev. Saleilles, Bro. Lucens, Messrs. E. J. Noronha and W. Paley; for Colombo, Right Rev. Bishop Zaleski, and Rev. Benzigen; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Guerra, Messrs. C. Inghald, A. Francois and Carvin, and Rev. W. Musson.

Per *Doric*, for Shanghai, Messrs. H. A. de Figueredo and F. A. Brockelman; for Kobe, Mr. F. W. Gotch; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Windeler and Mr. Woo Yuen; for San Francisco, Mr. Geo. B. Swayne; for London, Mr. P. Cameron.

Per *Catherine Apar*, for Singapore, Sergt. J. James, Mrs. Hill and 3 children, and Mrs. Shew Sey; for Calcutta, Messrs. Webster, J. Gregory, S. C. Longhurst, Rev. L. B. Worcester, Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Gook, Messrs. Tse Wing Yan and Leung Fook Hoi.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Manila, Messrs. C. Holm, R. Turner, Quirico Pons y Galcerin, E. Apericio and Gustave Steiner.

Per *Ceylon*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Mr. H. F. Rankin, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln and child; for Brindisi, Dr. H. de H. Cameron, Col. H. S. Haskella, and Mr. A. Imhopy; for London, Mr. J. C. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Mounsey, Messrs. J. Balmer, M. Balmer, and G. MacLagan; from Shanghai for Singapore, Mr. C. W. Dreckman.

Per *Coromandel*, from Hongkong for Yokohama, via Shanghai, Mr. T. Rider; for Shanghai from Hongkong, Mr. T. Miwa, Mr. and Mrs. Mills; from London, Miss Cunliffe, Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood and child, Miss Wickham, Messrs. Gillies, Row, Fairclough, E. Taylor, and J. Reid; from Brindisi, Messrs. Bonmais and A. Cohn.

Per *Japan*, from London for Shanghai, Mr. W. J. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield and two children, Messrs. R. Carr, A. C. Moule, Mr. and Mrs. Pattison and child; for Kobe, Mr. J. W. Nicholson; from Hongkong for Shanghai, Mrs. Baby Munch Naur.

Per *Australian*, for Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Ackman, Mr. Ackman, Jr., Misses Ackman (2), Messrs. E. L. Thorne, H. Bulmer, Irvin McDowell, W. T. Bennie, and H. French.

Per *Bingo Maru*, for Nagasaki, Mrs. G. Hamilton; for Kobe, Mr. M. Henry; for Yokohama, Messrs. C. Rowcroft, M. McCarthy, R. M. McGarvie, Mr. and Mrs. Davis, Miss Mary Ringslay, and Mr. C. Harmon.